



GS1 UK Solutions: Asset tracking and management

Track and trace your assets to:

- Improve utilisation
- Improve supply chain efficiency
- Reduce asset inventory
- Reduce time looking for assets
- Improve maintenance and repair of field-based assets



About GS1 UK



Our mission is to make it **faster**, **cheaper** and **safer** for our members to serve their customers. This is achieved by the industry wide adoption of global GS1 standards and locally delivered services.

Life is simpler when we all have the same information. GS1 UK licenses unique numbers to identify everything from products to patients in a standard way. These numbers are used to automate the flow of goods and information and are integrated into one or more GS1 UK Solutions to increase supply chain efficiency.



GS1 UK adds value

GS1 UK Solutions improve business processes by cutting cost and time and increasing revenue and efficiency.

We have teams of industry experts with multiple disciplines to tackle the most complex problems businesses face today. We work with them and their trading partners to increase efficiency in their business. Organisations approach us when they want:

- **innovative and sustainable efficiency:** we deliver solutions to improve efficiency, sustainability and traceability in areas such as asset tracking, data quality management and retail point of sale
- a **responsive approach:** we listen, and deliver positively and effectively to their needs
- **delivery of real results:** we produce tangible benefits to their business

We are independent, profit-neutral and part of a global organisation of over one million member companies world wide, operating in 108 countries.

What is asset tracking and management?

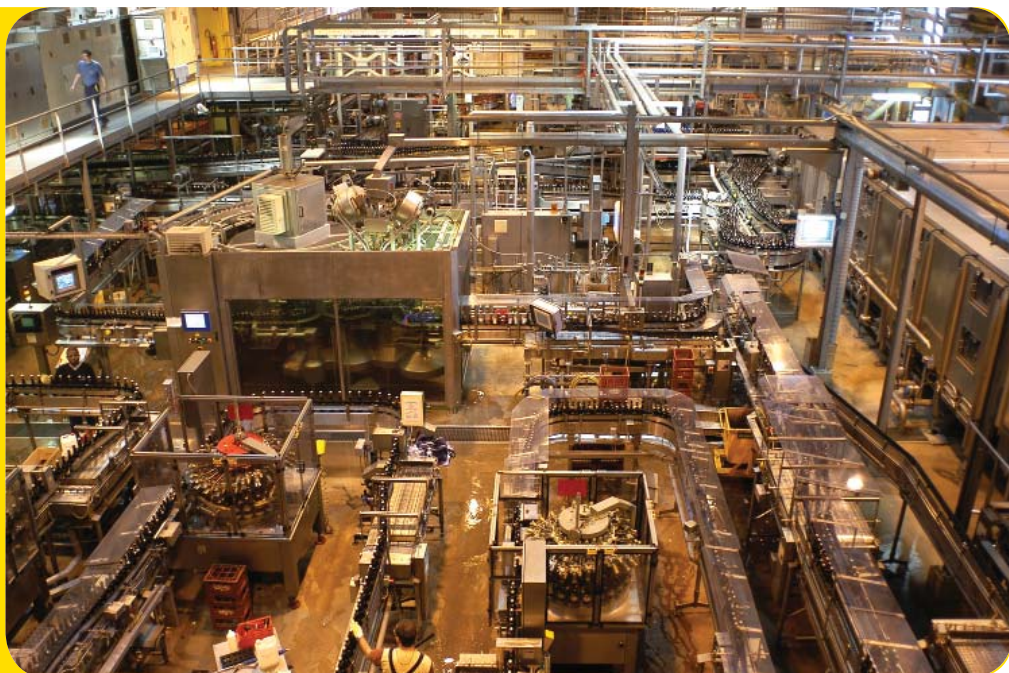


If a mobile asset (e.g. roll cage, hospital bed, vending machine or fire extinguisher) is not where it is meant to be, where it is needed when it is needed or cannot be correctly identified then additional costs and inefficiency result.

Management of mobile assets in most organisations is not considered a priority leading to many issues including:

- High levels of loss: an annual loss of 10% of total asset numbers is not untypical
- Production line downtime due to non-availability of assembly parts
- Supplier hoarding in the run up to and during seasonal peaks resulting in missed deliveries
- Disruption of the supply chain resulting in lost sales all round
- Suppliers without the correct re-usable assets reverting to single trip packaging causing additional packaging costs, more product damage and increased cost of waste management
- New re-usable assets have to be bought to fill requirement gaps
- Reduced asset life
- Inefficient use of field engineers' time
- Time wasted trying to find assets
- Poor maintenance management resulting in cost of unnecessary servicing or, worse, failure of the asset
- Potential for being in breach of regulations or insurers' terms and conditions.

Use of GS1 standards helps to ensure that what is needed, when it is needed is where it is needed



The lack of visibility of your assets will cost you money



How much will it cost you?

- **50%** of companies' logistics asset operations consume at least 5% of revenue
- **7%** of companies have logistics asset operations that consume more than 10% of revenue
- Theft, damage and misplacement greatly reduce asset productivity, with **25%** of companies losing more than 10% of their container fleet each year
- **75%** of customers believe existing systems fail to meet their operational requirements
- **50%** have manual asset management processes
- **66%** are planning to invest heavily in asset management solutions over the next two years

Source: Forrester

"Having properly decontaminated and sterile surgical instruments for an operation is an obvious requirement, but tracking using a standardised coding system, is essential to allow traceability from one patient to another in the unlikely event of a recall procedure."

Caroline Robinson, Customer Contract
Manager, Wythenshawe Hospital



The benefits of asset tracking and management



The ability to track and trace your assets will help to increase the visibility of your assets within your supply chain, improve efficiency and increase the effectiveness of maintenance schedules.

Better asset utilisation



- Better turn around times and therefore improved return on investment on the asset
- Improved profitability for asset owners
- Reduced financial loss through less theft or misplacement
- Anticipated asset returns & reallocation increase efficiency and improve the return on investment in the asset
- Production efficiencies
- Reducing cost of loss or theft
- Improving customer service through greater data accuracy
- Reducing asset inventory

Improve supply chain efficiency



- Improve control of the supply chain
- Reduce the cost of operating logistics assets
- Automate the asset management process
- Ensure that the asset is where it is needed, when it is needed or at least identify where it last was and in whose possession
- Provide an audit trail of that asset's journey and what it has been used for, which is essential in food transport
- Improve store replenishment
- Improve delivery and receiving processes

Improve maintenance and repair of field-based assets



- Extend asset life through improved management of maintenance cycles
- Decrease asset search times
- Reduce strays and errors
- Ensure maintenance/repair of correct asset
- Improve safety through improved maintenance scheduling
- Satisfy insurers that the correct maintenance has been carried out
- Make engineers' lives easier as they can locate the right asset quicker
- Reduce cost of central support to field based engineers verifying that they have located and identified the correct asset to be serviced



How GS1 UK can help



GS1 UK offers standards-based asset tracking solutions. We do this by adopting a combination of GS1 keys for Automatic Identification and Data Capture technology, e.g. bar codes or RFID tags, to provide visibility of the whereabouts of those assets and provide an audit trail of their journey.

GS1 UK's asset tracking solution offers the ability to gain visibility of your assets across your supply chain and production operations and ensure:

- **Minimal loss**
- **Maximised utilisation**
- **Greater product availability**
- **Process and data improvements**

GS1 UK Professional Services

GS1 UK provides a range of professional services that deliver expert business consultancy, project management and community development capabilities to assist in the implementation and roll-out of all GS1 Solutions and standards. We do this by following a three-stage process:

1. Discovery Service

With a discovery service we carry out a thorough business analysis of the issues facing the client, and assess all opportunities for greater efficiencies. This may include the further adoption of a GS1 solution based on your supply chain issues and objectives.

We provide expert and impartial business analysis and recommendation relating to GS1 supply chain solutions and standards and their potential benefits.

2. Implementation Service

We provide project management and support to ensure the successful implementation of GS1 UK Solutions. We do this through a team of specialist professionals capable of providing guidance and support at all stages of the implementation. We can also provide independent advice and support in the selection of solution providers and vendors.

3. Community Development

We can also help organisations to ensure their suppliers all follow the same processes through a community development programme.

This means ensuring suppliers:

- Are presented with a simple on-boarding process through our community development team
- Have access to all necessary support materials explaining the process





As well as our traditional discovery service, GS1 UK offers the EPCglobal RFID Test Centre to help you understand how to use RFID within your application to derive real benefit if RFID is considered the best technology for your requirements.

The EPCglobal RFID Test Centre is a vendor-independent demonstration, test and design centre and allows:

- Performance benchmarking of typical RFID reader configurations for applications
- Recommendations for a pilot programme
- Recommendations on number and locations of readers required to achieve different levels of improvement
- Recommendations regarding best frequencies to use within the application



- **RFID taster sessions**
- **RFID industry sessions**
- **RFID test sessions**
- **RFID design sessions**



Contact us



If your organisation is looking to increase supply chain efficiencies and reduce operating costs then the GS1 UK team can provide a strategic and pragmatic approach to delivering you a solution.

Contact GS1 UK for an initial discussion or visit :
www.gs1.uk.org/solutions/solutions_overview.asp

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