RFID SPEAK: AGENCIES PLAN FOR RADIO FREQUENCY ID SYSTEMS EVEN AS THEY IRON OUT ISSUES

Radio frequency identification systems are gaining wider acceptance in government technology circles. A new GCN survey of 244 government IT officials found that 24 percent of respondents' agencies currently use RFID, and another 23 percent plan to in the next couple of years. Personnel ID, asset management and supply chain logistics are driving RFID use but, increasingly, so is security. Concerns still hobble adoption, however, particularly over the cost of infrastructure, protecting against tag cloning and database breaches, and evolving hardware and software standards. To see the full results of the survey, see **GCN.com, Quickfind 674**.

How is your agency using/planning to use RFID?

	CURRENTLY USE	PLANNING TO USE
PERSONNEL ID AND ACCESS CONTROL	28%	30%
ASSET MANAGEMENT/INVENTORY CONTROL	20%	43%
SUPPLY CHAIN LOGISTICS	17%	24%
VEHICULAR-ACCESS CONTROL (SUCH AS BORDER CROSSING)	9%	13%
DOCUMENT ID AND CONTROL	7%	14%
ANIMAL TRACKING	3%	3%
PHARMACEUTICALS TRACKING	2%	10%

What are the primary benefits your agency expects from RFID?

INCREASED SECURITY	63%
INCREASED ASSET VISIBILITY	50%
INCREASED SPEED OF OPERATION	39%
INCREASED DATA INTEGRITY	37%
REDUCED COST OF OPERATION	36%
REDUCED COST OF INVENTORY	35%

What are the impediments to RFID adoption in your agency?

COST OF INFRASTRUCTURE	47%
LACK OF UNDERSTANDING ABOUT BENEFITS	37%
BUSINESS PROCESS INTEGRATION	35%
SECURITY ISSUES NOT RESOLVED	31%
RETURN ON INVESTMENT NOT DEMONSTRATED	28%
LACK OF INTEROPERABILITY WITH EXISTING ID SYSTEMS	27%
LACK OF STANDARDS	23%
COST OF TAGS	20%
PRIVACY ISSUES NOT YET RESOLVED	19%

What are the biggest security concerns about using RFID in your agency?

TAG SECURITY (CLONING, SPOOFING, TAMPERING)	65%
DATA IN THE TAGS (UNAUTHORIZED TAG READS)	52%
DATA WITHIN THE MANAGEMENT SYSTEM (HACKING)	46%
DATA DURING WIRELESS TRANSFER	43%
PRIVACY	37%
ENCRYPTION	35%