Production line monitoring software for RFID readers

This software package is a general purpose package that will meet many of the requirements of users wanting to monitor the progress of items down a production line. It links multiple readers into a single reporting system.

This brochure describes software available from Trolley Scan for operating the RFID reader products.

Fig 1 Hardware layout of a production line with multiple readers transferring data via a LAN to a server providing identity description information, tracking status and report generation; and then passing this information onwards to remote displays.
Historically Trolley Scan have supplied long range reader and transponder technology generally to IT companies and System houses where they have added the necessary software needed by their clients based in 49 countries. Trolley Scan will continue to provide “hardware only” to clients wanting to use their excellent reader and transponder technology, but will now start supplying software for the systems as well to users who do not want to operate via IT companies. Several standard low cost packages are being developed to ease the use of RFID systems for the user who wants to plug in and operate immediately.

Description of operation
The program is housed on a machine that is on the network, and this machine can be involved in other functions for the business as the Production Line Monitoring function is not computational intensive.

The program:
1. Reads data from multiple readers that are positioned at the various reading stations and output their data to the program via internet packets.
2. Looks up the full description of transponders from the ID code from the description database
3. Time stamps all readings and log in a logfile
4. Updates the tracking database which records where all tags are currently positioned
5. Outputs the description data to remote displays via the network
6. On request generates a report for printing showing the current location of all transponders.
7. On request generates a history of one transponder showing its time of arrival at each reading station.
8. On request compresses the tracking database.

Fig 2 Software functionality of the Production line monitoring system. Reads data from the readers, retrieves descriptions to match identity tags, tracks current station with time stamp, generates reports and outputs information to display devices.
Capabilities
The software will track up to 1000 transponders at up to four reader stations. This can be increased if needed.

Requirements
The software is written for any Win32 operating system. It does not use the operating system but has its own low level operating system interfacing at the DOS level. This means it will run on Win 95/98/NT/Xp and the like. The description database can be entered and edited using a spreadsheet program such as Excel, and a browser such as Firefox, Netscape or Internet Explorer can be used to read and print the log files.

Costs
*Production monitoring software package*
- EURO 750.00
- US$ 1050.00
- R6000.00

Updates
These products are the first in a series of software products to be made available from Trolley Scan. We will continually improve the products with experience. Any purchaser of the *Production monitoring software package* is entitled to Free updates as these become available.

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