



Solid Solutions en identification SA is a Swiss company offering complete support and turnkey solutions around “Automatic Identification Technologies” to companies who wish to improve their traceability and the quality of their process. Among several accomplishments, Solid has developed an RFID decoder which provides the unique ability to simultaneously Read/Write to/from an RFID tag, Read a barcode, Print a label, Control I/O port, and offers the capability to communicate directly with any other applications such as SAP, Oracle and many others... The company is headquartered in Geneva Switzerland, and has a partner certified network all around the globe. More information on Solid can be found at www.solid.ch

CASE STUDY:

An RFID-Based Jewelry Inventory Solution

THE CLIENT

Headquartered in Geneva, de Grisogono is a leading Swiss jewelry and watchmaker, founded in 1995 by internationally renowned designer Fawaz Gruosi. De Grisogono is famous for returning the black diamond to the center of the jewelry industry by incorporating it into its innovative designs.

THE CHALLENGE

Whether in Geneva, St-Moritz, Rome, Paris, Porto Cervo, London or New York, daily physical inventory of all gemstones is a mandatory task not just for security reasons but also for insurance purposes. In addition, because of the similarity among stones, this inventory is critically important in ensuring that no billing errors occur.

THE LEGACY SYSTEM LED TO:

- Little visibility across the entire inventory
- Several days or weeks before the theft of a gemstone was recognized
- Errors in billing resulting from manual typing errors
- High insurance rates
- Barcodes were not esthetically pleasing



THE PROJECT TEAM

De Grisogono asked SOLID and TAGSYS to provide a complete solution for traceability based on SOLID's experience in automated identification software and TAGSYS' track record in customizing RFID technology for complex environments.

THE SOLUTION

The solution includes two major components:

- A TAGSYS RFID tag is attached to each piece of jewelry. RFID readers and antennas, developed by TAGSYS, are installed just outside the store's safe and within the displays. When a tray of gemstones is placed in the safe or display case and taken out, it is placed over an RFID antenna linked to an RFID reader. The tags are identified and recorded in the company's central database, confirming the gem's location. This operation replaces the time consuming manual typing and associated higher risks of human error. At the same time, photos of all gems on the tray appear on the screen and enable visual monitoring as well.
- Management software developed by SOLID manages and monitors jewel flows within the store and company's network of stores.

TAGSYS develops comprehensive multi-band RFID infrastructure for item-level tracking. This universal infrastructure includes purpose-built readers and tags, as well as RFID management software, all designed to work together seamlessly, at the highest performance levels, in the most demanding environments. With a proven track record of delivering reliable production systems, TAGSYS has deployed over 100 million tags and 60,000 reader systems to over 500 customers in more than 40 countries. More information on TAGSYS can be found at www.TAGSYSrfid.com.

www.tagsysrfid.com

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THE RESULT

Two of de Grisogono's stores are now RFID-equipped. As a result, the new system in place enables them to:

- Perform daily inventories of all stores instead of once per month
- Record and monitor jewels as they come in and out of the safes and displays, in a fast, secure and reliable manner
- Eliminate gaps between recorded inventories and physical inventories
- Reduce the time to react from theft from 1 month to several hours
- Implement a seamless traceability solution
- More time spent servicing clients

CONCLUSION

The application is a first of its kind on this market. "As a principle retailer of luxury watches and jewelry, we are extremely concerned by the threat of theft or loss of our assets," said M. Laurent Debief, CFO of de Grisogono. "When it came to selecting an end-to-end RFID application provider to help us streamline our inventory, SOLID and TAGSYS' track record for providing accurate and reliable read rates was a huge selling point. By deploying this unique RFID jewelry application across our network of shops, we are better able to manage our inventory down to the item-level by giving us complete visibility of our products from the headquarters to the shop floor." TAGSYS and SOLID see this application as most promising for the jewel industry as a whole.

