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## **Metal Tagging Briefing**

Merlin 360 is working in partnership with an RFID tag supplier in order to develop new applications for product tracking and tracing within the metal products industry.

A recent technology breakthrough in the field of Ultra High Frequency (UHF) transponder design means that for the first time, we are able to attach an RFID tag directly to a metal component and successfully collect coded data contained on that tag via RF signal.

Until this break through, data held on UHF transponders attached directly to metal products could not be read successfully, we now have a tagging solution that allows us to automatically read data at a distance of more than 3 metres away from the tagged object with fixed position antenna.

The next near term development will be the perfecting of a UHF menu driven hand held reading device. This device will be RF enabled, allowing roving workers to collect data on the move and immediately upload this information to a host system.

The implications for businesses working in the metals industry are significant, eg;

- product security
- stock location and work in progress checking
- product authentication
- elimination of manual data collection and information recording
- elimination of human error related to data collection
- product traceability
- records upkeep, eg. PAT test data, production job schedules etc.

We see immediate opportunities for major cost reduction in the following markets;

- Special metals and steel stockholding
- Oil and gas
- Railway

For more information contact Russell Conway – +44 1909 566770