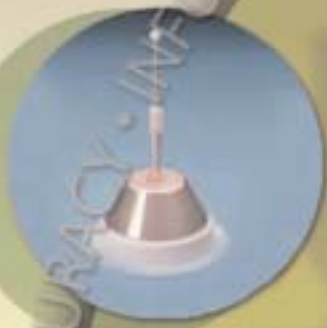


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# Purple Oak



**BAR CODE AND RF SOLUTIONS**

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## TURN PROBLEMS INTO PROFITS WITH BAR CODING

- Are your competitors beating you to bar coding?
- Want to streamline data collection in your facility?
- Is your current system obsolete and burdensome to maintain?

Putting bar codes to work in your business is simpler than you may think.

Purple Oak teams with leading auto ID companies to bring you data collection solutions tailored to meet your needs. We take away the headaches of dealing with multiple hardware vendors and software providers. We make sure that all components work together and fit seamlessly with your existing systems and operations.

### Our approach is simple, yet unique:

#### ***We Listen.***

Your business is unique, and no one understands it better than you do. Purple Oak will take the time to understand your business. In fact, we'll probably ask you more questions than you ask us.

#### ***We Learn.***

We blend our expertise with yours to get the results you want. Our goal is to give you a solution that solves your business problems at the best price possible.

#### ***We Educate.***

We want you to feel confident that you've selected the right solution for your business. We explain everything, from the types of products available, to the latest technologies and how they work. We give you choices, and help you understand the pros and cons of each.



## Automobile component manufacturer puts RFID on the line

RFID is an outstanding solution for tracking items through all stages of the manufacturing process, especially when the product is bulky or changes orientation during manufacturing. This manufacturer had specific requirements for their WIP solution:

- Institute lot traceability to the component level
- Identify a variety of component parts
- Capture QC data
- Labels or tags must be removable when assembly is complete
- No handling of scanners or readers by operators
- No interruption of the assembly process
- Direct interface with host system

After studying the manufacturing plant, Purple Oak chose a combination of RFID technology and bar coding for the solution. RFID tags are affixed to the product at the start of the line, and read at various stations of the assembly process. Serialized components are bar coded and read by a hands-free projection scanner. Purple Oak worked closely with the customer's factory automation integrator to create a seamless solution that provides accurate, real-time, hands-free data collection, and meets the design requirements completely.

### SOLUTION SNAPSHOT

**Equipment:** Texas Instruments TIRIS S251 low-frequency RFID Reader; Series 2000 gate antenna; 30mm low-frequency RFID transponders; Symbol Cyclone scanner

**Host Interface:** USData Factory Link, XFactory

## Scaffolding manufacturer speeds up WIP with wireless scanning

Small and mid-sized manufacturers using legacy enterprise systems can significantly improve their bottom line by adding real-time shop floor data collection to their existing system.

This manufacturer was manually recording hundreds of Issue Materials (IM) and WIP transactions each day, and keying this data into their BPCS system on an AS/400. The process was time consuming and error-prone. In addition, there were substantial delays in availability of critical manufacturing data. The company came to Purple Oak seeking advice on how to implement bar coding and real time data collection.

Purple Oak installed a wireless LAN, and equipped material handlers on the plant floor with Percon Falcon RF hand held terminals to enter transactions directly to BPCS. When raw materials are moved from storage to fabrication, a WIP bar code label is printed and affixed to the job ticket. Material handlers also use scanners attached to AS/400 ethernet terminals to track part numbers and quantities through the manufacturing process.

With a real time solution, the transactions are immediately recorded in the system. The host system can validate data on the spot, providing immediate feedback to the material handler at the time and place it is needed most.

### SOLUTION SNAPSHOT

**Equipment:** Proxim RangeLAN2 wireless LAN; Percon Falcon 325 RF hand held terminal; CLI ET2000 ethernet terminal; HHP IT3800 Linear Image Reader

**Software:** TN5250 terminal emulation software

**Host Interface:** BPCS; AS/400



## Metal fabricating company puts employee time back on track

This company's time and attendance system was giving them more headaches every day. The equipment was unreliable, the software was difficult to maintain, and the supplier was unresponsive to support calls. Time spent troubleshooting system failures was diverting important company resources and costing money. They looked to Purple Oak for help.

Purple Oak designed a new time and attendance system with job tracking capabilities using TIMEPoint® data collection terminals from Intelligent Instrumentation. Employees swipe an ID Badge when they check in and out of the building. Bar coded scan sheets are used to record job setup and production runs. All attendance and job data is stored on the customer's Novell network where it is processed by the host system.

According to the company's engineering manager, the new system offers them stability and reliability. The company no longer loses valuable time spent by key resources dealing with system malfunctions. In addition, the new system is compartmentalized. If a terminal goes off line, the rest of the system will continue to operate normally.

### SOLUTION SNAPSHOT

**Equipment:** TIMEpoint Data Terminal with bar code slot reader and stainless steel bar code wand, 10BaseT ethernet

**Software:** Purple Oak Time and Attendance System with job tracking

**Host Interface:** Frontstep Syteline™



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Call us for answers about:

- Bar Code and RFID Systems
- Wireless Networks
- Warehouse and Inventory Systems
- Manufacturing Data Collection

Learn how you can put bar code and  
RF technology to work in your business.  
Call Purple Oak today (847) 699-9630.



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