



Naval Surface Warfare Center (NSWC):
Defective hardware found and replaced.



AIM North America (NA) is a non-profit trade association representing the data collection technology sales channel.

The UID Supplier Alliance (USA) is a committee within AIM NA dedicated to raising the awareness and adoption of the UID Policy within the DoD agencies and DoD contractors.



SUCCESS STORIES

Naval Surface Warfare Center (NSWC) Corona, CA

Based on unique item data and using algorithms written against the Navy Surface Missile System Maintenance Data System database, statisticians are able to predict operational performance reliability of individual Navy missiles.

BENEFIT: Navy ship commanders could select specific weapons from a lot for use based on individual predicted operational reliability.

A defective batch of gyroscope lubricant constituted a Navy-wide missile flight safety concern. Because of unique item data, individual defective missiles were identified, removed from Fleet service and repaired before any flight failures occurred.

BENEFIT: Operational missile availability wasn't compromised and a safety issue was mitigated without the expense of having to inspect all missiles in the Navy inventory.



UID - NEXT GENERATION BARCODE: PATHWAY TO IMPROVED ASSET MANAGEMENT

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Why a Unique Identification (UID) Policy?

In 1988 the General Accounting Office found DoD's inventory management lacked sufficient controls with an overload of unnecessary spare parts and at the same time a lack of vital key spare parts because of inadequate accountability and ineffective monitoring. In 1990 the Chief Financial Officer's (CFO) Act was passed requiring all Federal agencies be issued a clean audit opinion.

DoD needed a way to identify tangible assets individually and associate value with those items that would be globally unique and unambiguous; have the ability to ensure data integrity and data quality throughout an item's life; and support business applications across the entire life cycle. This 2003 DoD initiative became known as UID.

UID requires placement of a barcode (2D Data Matrix) on every item DoD acquires costing over \$5000; those embedded items, components, or sub-assemblies serially managed by DoD; and critical items and items repaired by DoD.

Unique Identification of items is driven by an integrated set of logistics, acquisition and financial requirements to track and identify item information across the entire Defense Supply Chain. A registry of marked items will provide accurate and accessible information to make acquisition, repair, and deployment of items faster and more efficient.

Intended UID Benefits

DoD's UID policy was designed to help the defense community –

- Save taxpayer dollars by reducing workforce burden through increased productivity and efficiency
- Provide improved item intelligence for the warfighter for operational planning
- Lower the total life-cycle costs of items acquired and managed
- Provide item visibility regardless of the weapon system or who owned the item
- Supply item data needed for top-level logistics and engineering analysis
- Facilitate issuance of a clean audit opinion as required by the 1990 Chief Financial Officers' Act by providing an accurate data source for determining value and accountability of property and equipment
- Improve access to historical item data across the life cycle from system design to disposal

As more and more items enter DoD's inventory, UID policy provides a directed approach to automated data capture and a means to traceability throughout the life of an item. As UID data is captured and linked to existing data sources, access to a broad range of reliable data will improve valuation, engineering analysis, logistical and even operational decision making.

Issues Impeding the UID Policy

Adoption and implementation of DoD's UID policy has been hindered to date by a number of reasons including –

- Policy is viewed as an expensive unfunded mandate; actual initial costs can often be less than \$50,000 per organization
- Strong return on investment has been realized in the commercial sector, but has not been emulated and developed across the DoD
- Natural resistance to change exists especially where decision makers are faced with multiple priorities
- Working level populations within DoD have received the benefit of outreach and communication while senior managers are often unaware of the policy's requirements
- Senior leadership across DoD has not yet come to view the UID policy as an issue to champion
- Significant numbers of solicitations and contracts don't include mandatory UID clauses
- Defense Contract Management Agency (DCMA) lags in helping both DoD program offices and suppliers understand and come to grips with UID policy requirements

Your support is needed to address these issues and improve the rate of UID policy adoption!