

5 Considerations when faced with the Walmart Mandate

Walmart wants all required products to be RFID tagged by the supplier before they hit the shelves. There are many things to consider if your company is an affected vendor. Here, we have listed what we think are the top 5.

- 1. Which RFID tag do I use?** The RFID Lab at Auburn University approves and certifies which RFID tags the specific tags that can be used to meet the mandate requirements.
- 2. Do I print them in-house or use a Service Bureau?** This will depend on your needs. There are advantages to both solutions. If you are not manufacturing your own packaging, you may save money by having your packaging provider do this service for you. If you want to do it in-house, you will need an RFID label applicator.
- 3. Can I use this mandate to my advantage?** Yes! Northern Apex specializes in helping customers get the biggest return on investment in their RFID implementation. Depending on where and when your packaging comes into play, you can use RFID to track WIP, for Quality Control purposes, Cycle Counting in a warehouse, OR for verifying exact counts shipped to avoid charge-backs.
- 4. Can an RFID system be integrated into my existing ERP/MRP/Accounting Systems?** Yes! Northern Apex can integrate an RFID solution into your existing systems. We have been providing integration services for 25 years!
- 5. Will there be enough RFID tags to accommodate the Walmart Mandate?** As you can imagine, the demand for tags will great

increase as vendors gear up to meet the mandate. It is imperative that you work with an RFID solution provider that can help you forecast your needs with contingency options. Northern Apex has relationships with all the major tag manufactures.

Northern Apex is a leading provider of automated data collection, systems monitoring, warehouse tracking solutions, information delivery, and RFID inventory management systems. Our goal is to give clients the most accurate and timely information possible about their enterprise operations and processes so they can make the right decisions or take action quickly and with confidence.