

Securing RFID Tags

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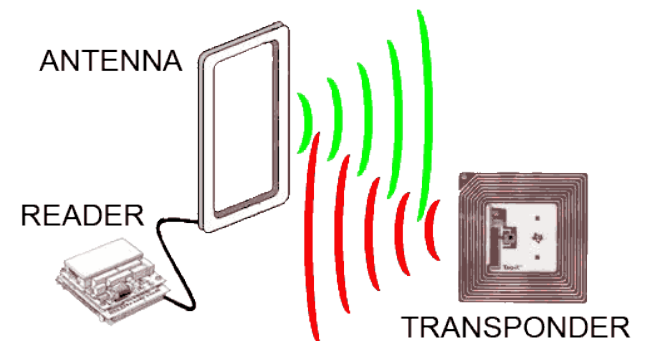
What is an RFID tag?

- RFID stands for Radio Frequency Identification
- Consists of a small chip and antenna attached to a sticker-like object
- Transmits data over the air in response to a transmission from an RFID reader
- Can be scanned without direct contact



RFID Tag Security Issues

- Certain RFID tags continuously emit unique IDs
 - People can be tracked by an RFID tag's unique ID
 - N'er-do-wells can inventory what items someone has on their person through the items' RFID tags
- Popular, low-cost RFID tags usually have weak security systems or none at all
- RFID tags lack an authentication system



Why The Interest?

- Increasing use of RFID tags
- RFID tags are being used in areas that require security
- Challenge of coming up with effective security measures that:
 - Doesn't raise manufacturing costs
 - Works with an RFID tag's limited computing resources