



# Airbus Deutschland

## RFID-Assessment and logistics processes

The aircraft manufacturer Airbus, which belongs to EADS (European Aeronautic Defence and Space Company), has secured a leading position in the aviation industry. As a highly customer-oriented technology leader Airbus has a wealth of commercial expertise and is an extremely efficient manufacturer. The recently introduced A380, which went into production in December 2000, will be the largest passenger plane ever built. Final assembly of the A380 took place in Toulouse and Hamburg. Because fitting out and painting of the A380 poses a huge logistical challenge, Airbus needs to be able to rely on the latest identification technologies to support the logistics process. Siemens IT Solutions and Services was asked to examine the use of RFID technology (Radio Frequency Identification) in Airbus Deutschland GmbH's logistics processes and to draw up a feasibility strategy, underpinned by appropriate field tests.

### The project

Siemens IT Solutions and Services followed the proven modular system of logistics assessment and first analyzed the processes in actual production, focusing primarily on identifying the materials used to paint the A380 and on the logistics chain, as well as on the parameters for future A380 production. Plant visits, interviews with the people involved in processes and workshops with the planners were methods used to assess the current situation. The information gathered served as the basis for evolving the potential ways of optimizing both the cross-company logistics chain and the internal logistics processes. A major factor here is the identification of materials and modules relevant to painting and fitting out the A380. Together with Airbus, the use of RFID technology was examined and analyzed in field tests.

### The challenge

- Consulting and performance of field tests on the basis of future processes
- Feasibility analysis for an innovative and future-oriented identification technology

### Benefits for Airbus Deutschland

- Comparison of actual processes and of current trends in the IT and logistics world
- Information on costs and benefits of possibly using RFID in logistics
- Realistic assessment of RFID technology on the basis of meaningful field trials
- Identification of options for the optimized creation of transparent material flows

### The solution

Siemens analyzed and assessed the feasibility of using RFID technology (transponder technology) in logistics. Its services range from consulting through to the field tests carried out jointly with Airbus.

### Our services

- Process consulting, process description and process assessment
- Comparison of different identification technologies
- Concept and feasibility analysis based on transponder technology
- Proposal for equipping the paint shop with the appropriate hardware for identifying transponders
- Planning and holding field tests



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