ARG-US CommBox

Flexible Monitoring and Tracking for Transportation

OVERVIEW

ARG-US CommBox, based on the ARG-US RFID system for monitoring drum-type packages in storage, expedites item-based monitoring and tracking of packages during transport. The ARG-US RFID system consists of RFID tags, fixed readers, and a laptop control computer. The CommBox and CommBox Mini add an external communication capability to the reader to allow for monitoring during transportation, eliminating the need for the laptop.

ARG-US RFID System

- Provides secure web interface
- Updates position information in near real time
- Updates package state of health (SoH) in near real time
- Displays position history and route, allowing for geofencing
- Enables customizable one-click GIS and status history reports
- Supports concurrent multiple vehicle and campaign tracking

ARG-US TransPort System

- Features self-contained power source
- Includes Omnitracs MCP200 system
- Does not require physical modifications to the vehicles for installation
- Is ready deployable – CommBox can be placed inside the trailer
- Is reusable on different vehicles/shipments
- Is being integrated with DOE TRANSCOM

COMMENTS

- Technology requires physical modifications to the vehicle, including installation of a fixed reader mounted in the cargo area of the vehicle.
- Reader depends on vehicle communication platform and power supply.
- While physical installation is straightforward, gaining approval for implementation is time consuming, making the technology difficult to deploy for many shippers.

TRANSPORTATION PROTOTYPE – CommBox Predecessor

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2007 – ARG-US RFID Concept
2009 – ARG-US TransPort Launched
2011 – ARG-US RFID Patented
2013 – CommBox
2014 – CommBox Mini
Future