Cut Your Physical Inventory Time in Half and Improve Count Accuracy
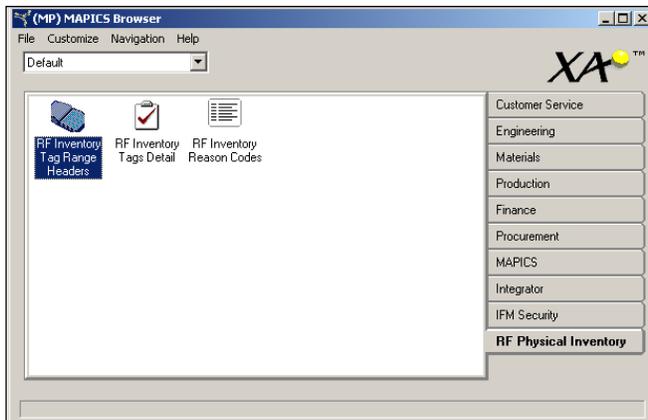
CISTECH's RF Physical Inventory Solution combines the count process with count/tag data entry (from the RF gun) to provide real time review of count quantities/variances. 'Tags' are peel off Avery labels with the tag number barcoded. The counter does not physically write any information they: scan the tag, item, location, batch/lot (if applicable) and enter the quantity. Then they leave the tag on the item/location to show that it has been counted. Tags can also be flagged as either 'void' (with a user defined reason code) or 'unused'.

If an employee has signed onto the RF device as an auditor (as opposed to a counter) they will scan the tag and see the count information. Then they either accept or reject the count. If the count is rejected, the auditor will enter a user defined reason code and, optionally, a comment, explaining the reason for the rejection.

The tag file, which is external to MAPICS, will show count/counter, audit/auditor and variance information. All information is available via PowerLink. When all tags have been counted, voided or marked as unused then they can be uploaded to MAPICS, either as a Materials Management Count Group or an Inventory Management Physical Inventory Batch. At that point, Mapics XA programs take over to update the on hand balances and create the PH transactions.

This enhancement significantly reduces the time required for physical inventory counts and eliminates data entry requirements. Benefits include:

- **Streamlined Physical Inventory Count Processes**
- **Reduced Labor/Overtime Costs**
- **Downtime for Count/Reconciliation CUT IN HALF**
- **Improved Inventory Count Accuracy**

CISTECH's RF Count Solution adds the following features to Mapics:

- Creates a 'blank' tag file
- Allows assignment of tags to employees; assigned to employee must be the one that enters the count (i.e. cannot 'share' tags with another person)
- Prints bar coded labels for 'tags'; 30 peel off labels per page
- Allows multiple tags for the same item/location and consolidates them onto one (new) tag when passing to MM or IM
- Allows the counter to void a tag with a user defined reason code
- Verifies item number and location as they are entered/scanned and calculates location variance
- Allows a counter to flag a tag as 'unused'
- Allows tag control to flag a range of tags as 'unused'
- Captures count to location quantity and cost difference when tag is counted
- When creating the MM Count Group or IM batch, if an item/location was not counted the user will have the option to have the program create a zero count quantity tags
- Status Codes for tags:
    - OP - Open
    - AS - Assigned
    - CT - Counted
    - AA - Audit Approved
    - AN - Audit Not Approved
    - VD - Voided
    - UU - Unused
    - CN - Consolidated To (for internal use when posting counts to MM)
    - UI - Uncounted Item (for internal use when posting counts to MM)
- Tag/count file retained after passing data to Mapics for post inventory research

"Our old physical inventory process would take all day Friday and Saturday to complete and involved over 250 people. With CISTECH's RF Physical Inventory solution we complete our physical inventory in 6 hours with 125 fewer employees involved. This equates to a saving of more than $75,000 in labor. And the inventory variance reports make it easy for us to make corrections to our counts and evaluate the causes of discrepancies quickly."

Scott Kadak, IT Manager, Schrader-Bridgeport

Pre-Requisites:

Radio Frequency Terminal 20 x 16 characters with 5250 emulation, XA Release 6 or 7, PM&C, MM and/or IM, Integrator