



# RFID JOURNAL LIVE!

**SEPTEMBER 26 - 28, 2021**  
PHOENIX CONVENTION CENTER | PHOENIX, AZ

## RFID in Manufacturing

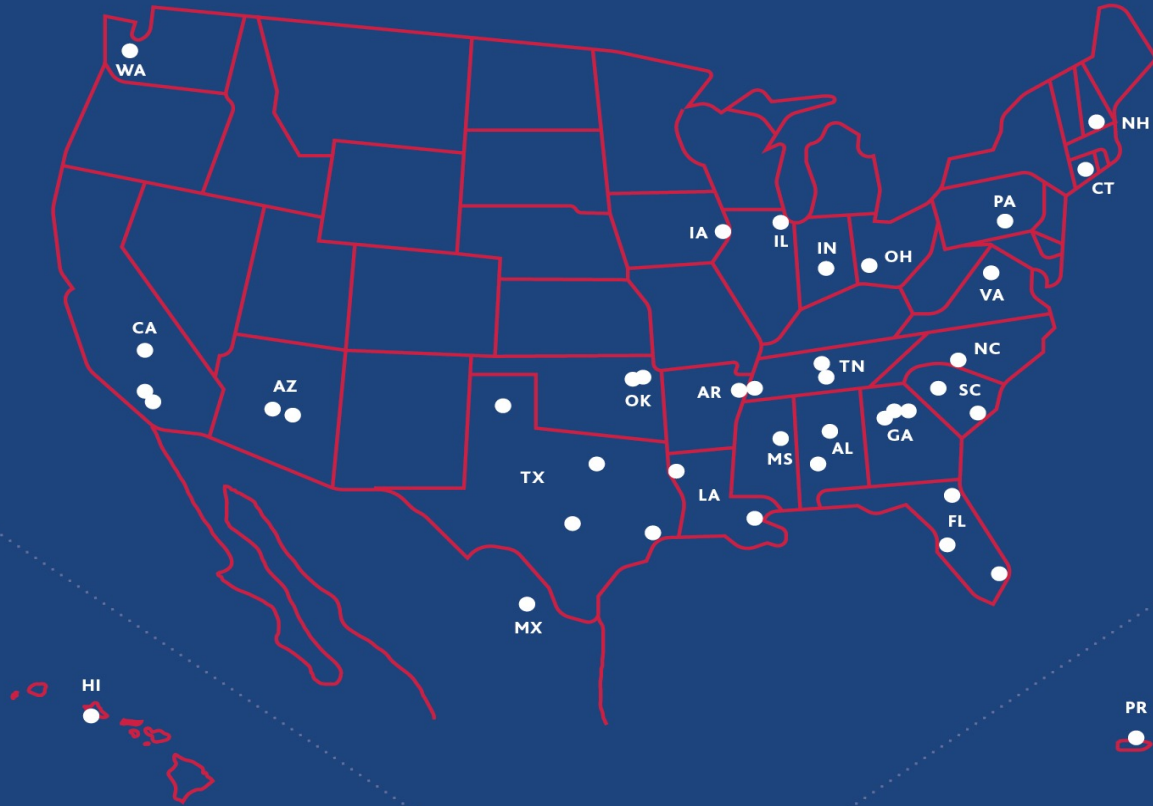
Jonathan Toler

Director, Digital Innovation

Kloeckner Metals



# About Kloeckner North America



- 40+ North American Facilities
- 2,200 Employees
- Carbon Steel, Stainless, & Aluminum
- Major Segments:** Automotive, Manufacturing, Construction, Fabricators, Shipbuilding
- 2019 Sales of \$2.6 Billion

# Unique Problem

- Specific inventory is usually dedicated for one or two customers.
- Coils must be moved by a Crane and are stacked on each other.
- Metal undergoes Multistep Processing in various parts of a facility.
- Customer forecasts are not always accurate / precise.
- Differing SLAs between key customers





# Addressing A Single Sympton

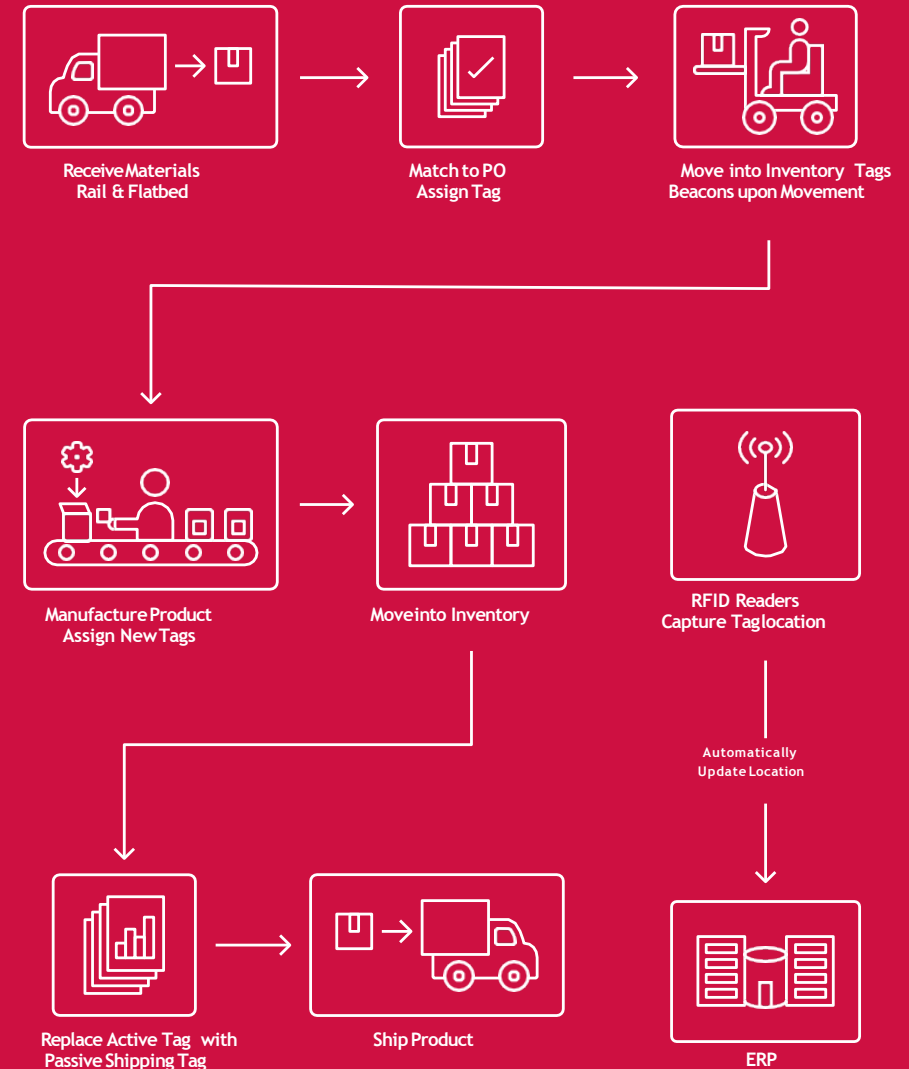
“How can we stop losing a 40,000lbs roll of metal? It takes us 2 hours at times to find a lost coil.”

# High Level Solution

- Active & Passive Tags
- Active RTLS Readers
- RFID System Software
- ERP
- Motivated Operations Teams



Quuppa



# Project Challenges

- Making The Business Case
  - Defining ROI
  - Active vs. Passive Tag Investment
- New Interfaces & Processes for Operations Teams
- Interference & Accuracy Within Metal environment
  - Choosing the Right Tags
    - Angle of Arrival
  - Mitigation Strategy
    - Tag Volume
    - Power of Tags
    - “EarMuffs”
    - Software Interpretation / Logic



# Solution Benefits

INTANGIBLE BENEFITS	TANGIBLE BENEFITS
Improved receiving time	Reduced load asset location time by avg 68% Neater stacks
Neater stacks	Reduced shipping shifts from 12 hours to 8-10 hours
Improved safety	Increased shipped loads from 25\day to 32\day
Enabled employees to be pro-active instead of reactionary	Decrease time to find assets required during production



# Future Casting

- Integrated Supply Chain
  - Steel Mills
  - OEM Customers
  - End User Transparency
- Operational Excellence
  - Realtime Pattern Analysis / Monitoring
  - Human Capital Management
  - RTLS triggered Automation
- One System / Multiple Use Cases



# Questions?

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# THANK YOU

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