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The Beauty of Having a Reliable Asset Tracking System by Ethan Mudgett

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Imagine you're a high-level manager who wants to stop losses from assets or items not taken care of. Your warehouse supervisor says some inventory is missing, or your assistant reports some office equipment cannot be located. After you calculate how much the said missing items are worth, you feel like pulling your hair out wondering how to stop that.

If your company is suffering unnecessary financial losses by losing valuable assets, you're probably in good company. On January 20, 2011, it was reported in the New York Times' web site that the Texas Department of Public Safety lost items worth more than $3.2 million. Among the missing items were a $74,000 piece of radio equipment, a 24-foot boat, and more than 150 rifles and handguns. Some of them were purchased using taxpayer's hard-earned money!

Department officials say that some of the materials are discovered, kept in warehouses, or sold. They acknowledge the improvement needs of their agency's system of keeping inventory, especially when for tracking missing assets. This could be the same dilemma you are facing right now.

You decide to find a way to stem any more losses. One way is to track your company's assets: where they are placed, who is handling what, where the item should be delivered or placed, etc. For that, an asset tracking system would prove convenient.

As the words imply, an asset tracking system is just a way of properly accounting for every item and keep losses to a minimum. An asset tracking system uses both hardware and software. Hardware like scanners will "read" the item and relay the information to mobile computers, while the software within those computers record data placed in, compile them, and provide the information to whoever's requesting it in the soonest possible time.

Since there are many asset tracking systems out there, the challenge is to find the one that will reasonably accomplish your goals the best. For one thing, the asset tracking system typically uses a bar code system to scan the item and quickly relay it to your database for tracking. In addition, hardware like bar code scanners and computers should be rugged and able to function properly, even if the device is inadvertently dropped.

Finally, it helps if the provider has been tried and tested for the longest time, few of which have been around for even a decade. By securing an asset tracking system from a long-time, trusted provider, you can properly account for your company's products to deliver and keep your assets safe. In so doing, you won't have to pull out your hair any more.

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