What is TallyFlow?

TallyFlow is a cloud-based tracking and reporting solution that uses RFID and other location-based technologies.

Why does TallyFlow exist?

The purpose of TallyFlow is to reduce waste: waste of time, waste of lost materials or tools, and waste of money spent on inefficiencies. The resulting savings flow through to your bottom line, increasing your profits.

TallyFlow also exists to improve safety. By tracking personnel, you can know where they are in case of an evacuation. You can also locate which zone they're in, and permit or restrict entry to certain areas through access control.

TallyFlow exists to help you integrate RFID into your own solutions. With an open API (application programming interface), software developers can get RFID data from TallyFlow to include in your ERP, MRP or other application.

Later, we should consider other safety aspects of TallyFlow, like forklift proximity detection, hand wash hygiene, etc. Right now, the focus is on TallyFlow as a location service of things and personnel.

How does TallyFlow reduce waste?

1. By locating inventory. Through automatically tracking items in the production and storage processes, TallyFlow helps you quickly find inventory.
2. By counting. By continually counting items, you are presented with near real-time inventory information. This information can inform your decisions on ordering additional inventory or raw materials, reducing the waste of excess inventory.
3. By tracking time.
   a. In the case of materials, tracking the time can help you understand system bottlenecks, time of repairs, and other Work in Process (WIP) information. Through changes in processes and training, you can improve these inefficiencies.
   b. In the case of personnel, time tracking can reduce the waste associated with inaccurate time reports.

How does TallyFlow locate inventory?

TallyFlow locates inventory by dividing warehouse, manufacturing or retail space into zones. By assigning RFID read points to the zones, you know which inventory items are in which zone. The TallyFlow web application keeps track of the movement of inventory. Through TallyFlow reports, you can see where, when, who and other information.

What is a zone and how are they created?

A zone consists of one or more read points. In the case of RFID, this can be a single RFID antenna. For example, a zone called "Inside" may consist of 1 RFID antenna connected to a reader that is on the inside of a doorway. A zone called "Outside" may consist of another RFID antenna on the outside of a doorway, perhaps connected to the same reader. Another zone may be configured to consist of several readers and antennas. Tags "seen" by any of the antennas will assign those tags to that zone.

Zones are often created through "choke points" (doors, walkways, etc.), specific areas that you want to track (e.g. a production area), or through logical association of a region with a reader. For example, stationery RFID tags can be "location tags" that are associated with a region, such as a shelf or cabinet. Bluetooth low-energy (BLE) beacons can be used to associate tags with a region, as well.

What is a TallyFlow endpoint?

A TallyFlow endpoint is another name for a device in the network that provides data to TallyFlow. The endpoint is often an RFID reader that has multiple antennas.

How is TallyFlow better than other tracking solutions?

1. TallyFlow is cloud based.
   a. Cloud-based solutions work best for multiple locations. Data can be viewed and analyzed through various locations.
   b. Cloud-based solutions permit easier integration with other cloud services that provide data analysis, machine learning and artificial intelligence, ERP software, etc.
   c. Cloud-based solutions are easier to maintain by using fewer IT resources.
2. TallyFlow has intelligent endpoints.
   a. TallyFlow endpoints have built-in processing. That is, decisions about what to do with the tag data are made at the "edge" of the network. This reduces network traffic and allows for rapid changes or decisions.
   b. TallyFlow endpoints can work offline, collecting data and making decisions.
   c. TallyFlow endpoints have a local database. The local database informs the endpoints information like who has access to a site, or what tags are valid inventory tags.
   d. TallyFlow endpoints provide local filtering of data, removing duplicate or non-essential reporting.
3. TallyFlow provides integration of photos, using the [PhotoTag app](#). Photos can be associated with items or people. Photos are taken with associated tags: barcodes, categories or user-created labels that help in organizing and searching through photos. For example, photos associated with a work order or shipment ID can be later reviewed if

damage has occurred. The photo documentation can push liability for damage to a shipping company or the receiver. See PhotoTag for more information.
4. TallyFlow has an open API. Many large organizations have existing systems that are purchased or home grown. The TallyFlow API allows that organization the ability to integrate with the larger software solution. For example, many construction companies use ProCore. Worker time data can be pushed from TallyFlow into ProCore for unified reporting.

Is TallyFlow right for my needs?

Of course! Or, It depends! ;-) TallyFlow is a flexible solution. It can be used to track things and personnel, but to be most useful, the data that is collected must be presented in a form that is suited to meet your business needs. We are continually adding reporting and analytic information that will increase the benefit of TallyFlow to various industries. For this reason, we charge for TallyFlow software as a service (SaaS). Or, you can think of this as RFID-as-a-service, as well. Since TallyFlow is a cloud solution, we offer an API that can be used to integrate with other solutions: MRP, ERP, and others.

Separate Q&A or article needed for "Using the TallyFlow API"