

RFID - A Smart Choice for Smart Meters

The Customer's Challenge:

The Market:

Telecom / Smart Grid / Smart Meter

The Application:

Applications utilizing RFID to maximize the benefits across multiple company departments for their Smart Meter products.

The engineering hurdles:

- Product traceability at the PCB level.
- Streamline supply chain management within the manufacturing facility, inventory control and shipping department.
- Implement a secure technology with long-term data retention for each individual meter.
- Simplify method of tracking the meter when installed in the field with the capability of retrieving and updating information.
- Alternative solution to bar coding.



The Murata Solution:

The Product:

LXMS31 Series
RFID Module – MAGICSTRAP®
EPC UHF Gen2 Compatible RFID Tag

Overcoming the hurdles:

Murata's RFID LXMS31 MAGICSTRAP® solution meets the challenges issued to the engineering team, in addition to the non-line of sight capabilities and the ease of implementing at the PCB level.

How we did it:

- Utilizing the LXMS31 prototype evaluation boards, the engineering team was quickly able to determine the location that provided the maximum read distance when the unit was fully assembled.
- Once the best location was confirmed, the PCB was re-designed to permanently accommodate the LXMS31 module.
- Since MAGICSTRAP® utilizes the ground plane as the actual antenna, no additional costs were added to the PCB.
- Mounting the LXMS31 module in production was easy since no specialty handling equipment is required.

The Product Features:

- EPC Global Gen2 / ISO 18000-6C compatible – UHF frequencies (860 – 960MHz)
- Mounted directly on the PCB using standard pick and place equipment
- Antenna impedance matching function is integrated into MAGICSTRAP®
- Up to 4~5 meter read range is possible
- Antenna patterns/guidelines are available for various sizes of printed circuit boards to meet a wide range of applications
- Design eliminates placement tolerance concerns
- Utilizes ground as antenna – no additional cost
- Memory Capacity – 96 ~ 512bits
- Compact Size (3.2 x 1.6 x 0.55mm)
- RoHS Compliant
- Long-term Data Retention
- ESD protected up to >2kV

Potential customers in this Industry:

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|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| • Aclara | • Landis+Gyr |
| • Echelon | • Sensus Metering Systems |
| • Elster | • Silver Spring Networks |
| • General Electric Energy | • SmartSynch |
| • Itron | • Tantalus |
| • IUSA | • Trilliant Networks |



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More info:

For further information about Murata's RFID solutions, please contact Gerry or your local sales office.

Data sheets and application notes for Murata RFID products can be found at:

www.murata-northamerica.com/RFID

