News for release from Cisco-Eagle, Inc.

Summary: RFID is a type of identification tag used on products, pallets, or trucks that employs radio frequency to track these items for the purpose of increasing efficiencies from manufacturer to the store shelf. The University of Arkansas has created the first multidisciplinary research center devoted to examining the technology as used in retail settings, wireless and sensing contexts and beyond. Cisco-Eagle is a sponsoring member.

Headline:

Cisco-Eagle Joins University of Arkansas RFID Research Center

Body:

DALLAS, TX – May 4, 2005 – Cisco-Eagle, Inc.: According to company president Steven W. Strifler, Dallas-based Cisco-Eagle, Inc. has joined the University of Arkansas' new RFID Research as a sponsoring member.

"The RFID center is a perfect fit for Cisco-Eagle," said Strifler. "Since we specialize in helping companies improve their order fulfillment and distribution performance, it was a natural for us to get involved. It ties closely to our customer's needs. RFID is going to have a major impact on the supply chain."

The University has created the first multidisciplinary, "supply chain in a box" RFID (Radio Frequency Identification) research center devoted to examining the technology as used in retail settings, wireless, sensing contexts and beyond. Cisco-Eagle, a leading national material handling systems integrator, designed and implemented an RFID testing conveyor loop for the research center.

"Cisco-Eagle has been instrumental in helping us create an RFID testing and research facility that is unsurpassed among universities," said Dr. Bill Hardgrave, Executive Director of the Information Technology Research Institute at The Sam M. Walton College of Business, University of Arkansas.

"Specifically, Cisco-Eagle provided the engineering expertise necessary to establish a world-class conveyor system capable of replicating in a 90' x 30' space what one would normally find throughout a major distribution center," said Hardgrave. "We look forward to working closely with Cisco-Eagle in developing RFID solutions for manufacturing and distribution environments."

RFID research has intensified since Wal-Mart stores mandated that suppliers implement the technology. The not-for-profit RFID center is designed to help Wal-Mart suppliers select RFID equipment and systems. The center offers product testing for a substantially lower cost than a for-profit laboratory.

The 7,800 square foot center has two dock doors, pallet rack, a forklift, a Cisco-Eagle dual conveyor testing loop and swinging doors identical to those installed between the back room and the sales floor at a Wal-Mart store. The center contains the latest RFID technology, including tags, antennas, and readers.

The RFID Research Center has attracted the support of 17 Sponsoring Members—a group of retail, market and industry leaders, including Cisco-Eagle, Wal-Mart Stores, Deloitte Consulting, Hytrol Conveyors, and others—to participate in the research.

"We will be able to provide an independent service able to say what works and what doesn't," said Dr. Hardgrave.

The center examines RFID technical issues and questions of public policy. It provides testing and research services. It uses the testing environment to further research RFID applications and to train students at the baccalaureate and graduate levels.

The laboratory officially opens on June 10, 2005 with a ribbon-cutting ceremony event and RFID forum.

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About Cisco-Eagle

Markets, Products, and Services
Cisco-Eagle provides solutions for movement, storage, retrieval, control and protection of materials and products throughout manufacturing, distribution, consumption and disposal. Solutions involve application of material handling equipment such as conveyors, carousels, rack, shelving, mezzanines, and other important elements. More complex solutions may incorporate a higher level of controls, automation equipment and distributed intelligence.

History and Locations
Cisco-Eagle is headquartered in Dallas, Texas with regional offices throughout the Southwest. Additionally, numerous satellite offices are found throughout operational regions to meet the growing expectations of our customers.

Employee Ownership
As an ESOP company, Cisco-Eagle is owned by its Employees. Its business philosophy is founded on customer-focused total quality management, continuous improvement, and open book management. The company believes that owners perform better than employees, delivering a significant customer satisfaction advantage. Anyone you deal with from Cisco-Eagle is an owner.

University of Arkansas:

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