About the Guideline

The Metro Vancouver RFID Interoperability Working Group commissioned the RFID Interoperability Best Practice Guideline to provide a valuable resource for public and private transportation agencies in British Columbia and other Canadian provinces that are seeking to deploy applications based on vehicle identification technologies. The guideline includes information regarding existing RFID technologies, industry trends, and strategies for achieving interoperability. It also presents a case study of the Vancouver initiative between TransLink, Transportation Investment Corp., and BC Ministry of Transportation & Infrastructure which are working together to achieve multiple levels of interoperability between Golden Ears Bridge tolling, Port Mann Bridge tolling, and the Weigh2Go BC commercial vehicle program.

RFID is often used for vehicle identification in support of verifying commercial vehicle credentials, granting vehicle access to facilities, and assigning vehicle charges for use of facilities. The vehicle identification is used as a link to access other information needed by the application(s) such as vehicle owner, vehicle characteristics, safety and registration compliance status, and payment account status.

Metro Vancouver RFID Interoperability
Working Group Participants

- Transport Canada
- BC Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure
- Transportation Investment Corporation
- Weigh2GoBC
- TransLink
- Port Metro Vancouver
- Vancouver Airport Authority
- BC Ferries
- BC Trucking Association
- US Customs and Border Protection
- Canada Border Services Agency

For a copy of the guideline, please visit http://www.th.gov.bc.ca/rfid/
Interoperability leads to the “Power of One”:
• One onboard device (per vehicle);
• One account;
• One phone number to call.

At the business process layer, agencies agree to operate under coordinated business rules to improve their efficiency and simplify the customer experience.

Back office interoperability is based on inter-agency agreement to exchange On Board Equipment status, facility transactions, and (optionally) payment reconciliation. Customers need only one account. Consolidated customer service offers customers a single point of contact for any issues.

Achieving physical interoperability means that On Board Units from any participating agency can be read by the Road Side Equipment at all agency facilities. Customers need only one device.

Without interoperability, agencies operate independently. Customers will be required to interact/register separately with each.