Radley
Material Traceability
A CAI SOLUTION

Independence Power and Light (IPL)

City's Electrical Utility Modernizes Inventory Tracking Using Real-Time Barcode Scanning

Industry
Municipal

Challenge
Confusion with inventory tracking because of time-consuming manual barcoding.

Solution
Implementing Radley Material Traceability software to seamlessly integrate with Trimble Cityworks to provide time-saving inventory tracking and real-time data.

Results
Streamlined rollout that saves time and confusion on inventory counts, audits, and transfers across locations.

Independence is the fifth-largest city in Missouri, a major suburb of Kansas City. It's the hometown of former President Harry Truman and the location of the Truman Presidential Library.

Independence Power and Light (IPL) provides electricity to 55,000 local households. Founded in 1901, IPL has powered Independence citizens for over a century. IPL houses equipment and inventory in warehouses across the city.

Keeping track of equipment, breakers, circuits, cables, and vehicles requires work and organization. But it's also crucial to keeping the city's electricity running.

Challenge

IPL's old inventory database was dated and problematic. Every update required manual data entry. The database didn't update their work management system to inform employees where to find needed equipment.

This disconnect slowed processes, wasted time, and decreased the reliability of their data. They also needed software that would integrate directly with Trimble Cityworks tool, which is used for asset management and community development.

Lack of Visibility

Manual updates meant inventory updates were never accurate in real time. Their staff struggled to manage daily processes without knowing how much inventory was at each location.

Manual Barcoding

The existing system required the IPL team to manually scan bar codes on all inventory. Every light bulb, cable, fuse, lamp post, and transformer had to be input into the system by hand.

Upgrades Needed

Before any software updates could be made, IPL needed to modernize their wireless network. This roadblock prevented them from integrating their existing systems and processes.

Solution

CAI Software implemented its Radley Material Traceability software for improved data collection and integration. Using Zebra mobile devices, IPL team members can instantly handle transactions from any warehouse or job site.

Every transaction automatically updates their database, too—no more manual data entry. This means their inventory data is more trustworthy. Issuing work orders, assigning tasks, and receiving work orders are now fully automated jobs.

This eliminates hours of frustrating and tedious manual barcoding work. It also boosts IPL's security with two-factor authentication. IPL finally has the freedom to operate smoothly with their technology stack, including a connection to Cityworks.

IPL plans to add more features like inventory counts, audits, and tracking between locations. These features are easy to add since they're existing modules with Radley's Material Tracability product. They also intend to expand the solution to areas like transmission and distribution, fiber and communications, and local substations.

Results

- New barcode tracking and data collection system

- Increased operational efficiency and real-time visibility

- Improved security with two-factor authentication

- Streamlined rollout of the new warehousing solution and database integration

- Opportunities for future updates to software features

- Seamless integration and data sync with Trimble Cityworks

Looking to automate your inventory management system?

Contact us at **info@caisoft.com.** Learn more at
caisoft.com/products/radley-material-traceability

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