

## **RFID use on Safe-T-Sponge<sup>®</sup> products**

Advanced F.M.E. Products, Inc. began research into use of RFID (Radio Frequency Identification) several years ago. We have filed a patent application relating to certain uses and methods of this technology on Safe-T-Sponges.

### How it works

1. A radio signal from a transmit/receive source is received by a small RFID device; a receive/transmit antenna and chip combination containing data.
2. The data is pre-written – generally to contain part and serial numbers. The signal activates the chip which inserts the data into the signal and then retransmits it.
3. The reflected signal is received by the original transmit/receive source, and the data read. Proprietary software sends the data to a Windows Excel spreadsheet.

### Advantages

1. Great potential to track sponges as they leave and return to a central inventory area during an outage.
2. Simple training to use, spreadsheet outputs accessible on demand.
3. Great ‘read’ range on PL-8 and larger sponges.
4. More data can be written to larger chips used on PL-8 and larger sponges.
5. Rapidly improving technology.

### Disadvantages

1. Expensive compared to standard sponges.
2. Not fail safe.
3. Signals are degraded or stopped by proximity to high-mass materials (metal, water, concrete etcetera).
4. Non stock item.

This is a basic overview. For additional information please call the factory.