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FEIG Electronics' RFID Technology Helps A Leading North American Hospital Improve Patient Care

— *RFID Canada prescribes solutions to improve efficiency, family responsiveness at Sunnybrook Health Sciences Centre* —

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[FEIG Electronics](#), a leading global supplier of RFID readers and antennas, announced that FEIG's OBID® RFID reader systems are used by the [Sunnybrook Health Sciences Centre](#), a leading teaching hospital and the largest trauma center in Canada, to improve operational efficiency and responsiveness of communications with patients and their families.



Sunnybrook Health Sciences Centre's Out-Patient Cancer Care automatic check-in station

Leading RFID technology provider [RFID Canada](#) helped Toronto-based Sunnybrook hospital deploy a state-of-the-art RFID solution that includes both proximity and long-range FEIG OBID [RFID readers](#) with the help of local system integrators.

RFID was first implemented in Sunnybrook's out-patient cancer care program in the Odette Cancer Centre, the sixth largest cancer facility in North America. RFID Canada supplied low-cost, RFID-enabled patient ID cards and integrated FEIG [near-field RFID readers](#) into self-serve kiosks, allowing patients to check-in to the center's appointment software and tracking their progress between the

chemotherapy unit, doctor appointments and the pharmacy.

Based on the success of RFID in the cancer care program, Sunnybrook chose to expand the use of the technology. FEIG's OBID i-scan[®] UHF [LRU1002 long-range readers](#) are now installed to track patients' progress in and out of 19 operating rooms, where Sunnybrook sees approximately 13,500 surgical patients per year.

Because the patient's chart travels on the gurney with the patient, RFID tags were affixed to the binders that hold the charts, and antennas were installed at entry doors and check points in the surgical unit. The hospital's OR Information Management Services staff wrote a custom software program that tracks the patients and their charts coming and going, and records how much time each patient spends in registration, pre-op preparation, the operating room and post-operative recovery. By tracking the time in/ time out of each area, the hospital can be informed if a patient arrived in a room before it was ready, for example, or spent more time than expected in post-anesthetic recovery.

"For utilization reporting, staffing models and patient flow, it is important for us to know and understand how much time each patient spends in each area," said Ellie Lee, Sunnybrook manager of OR Information Management Services. "RFID is not dependent on a person to enter data into a computer. This is real time data that is dependent on a tag passing an antenna and transmitting data to a reader. RFID allows nursing and allied services to spend more time on patient care, not documentation. It also allows hospital senior administration to make informed decisions."

Each patient is assigned a unique ID number that they may choose to provide to family members or loved ones. Sunnybrook is installing monitors in the waiting area to display real-time updates on each patient's whereabouts, to reduce the need for family members to request frequent status reports. The display will show the ID number, instead of a name, in order to protect patient confidentiality.

"The ability to streamline and automate communications duties frees up valuable time for hospital staff to focus on delivering quality patient care," said Bob Moroz, president of RFID Canada. "FEIG's versatile RFID readers enabled us to deploy a fully automated system that meets various configuration needs."

“OBID RFID readers from FEIG deliver the speed and accuracy needed to provide complete visibility into process workflow, allowing improvements in scheduling of procedures,” said Michael Hrabina, executive vice president, FEIG Electronics. “RFID Canada was instrumental in the design and deployment of an innovative RFID solution that helps Sunnybrook maintain peak efficiency.”

About FEIG Electronics

FEIG Electronics, a leading global supplier of RFID readers and antennas, is one of the few suppliers worldwide offering RFID readers and antennas for all standard operating frequencies: LF (125 kHz), HF (13.56 MHz), UHF (860-960 MHz). A trusted pioneer in RFID with more than 40 years’ industry experience, FEIG delivers unrivalled data collection, authentication and identification solutions, as well as secure contactless payment systems with its OBID® RFID products. FEIG readers, available for plug-in, desktop and handheld applications, support next-generation contactless credit cards, debit cards, smartcards and NFC applications to enable fast, accurate, reliable and secure authentication and payment transactions.

[OBID® RFID](#) reader systems from FEIG were developed according to international standards in close cooperation with leading manufacturers of transponder chips, supporting all major types of transponder tags. FEIG Electronics delivers both standard and customized solutions. Please visit www.feig-electronics.com.

About RFID Canada

RFID Canada is an RFID and NFC technology provider. Products include all passive RF frequencies - Low (LF), High (HF) and Ultra High (UHF) as well as Active RF frequency. RFID Canada provides the vital foundation to any RFID-based system and has been involved in successfully implementing over 500 systems globally. RFID Canada, with its network of partners, has successfully implemented applications such as animal identification, document tracking, traceability, asset tracking, work-in-process, stock replenishment, personal identification and sporting events in a wide range of industries including agriculture, manufacturing, transportation, supply chain and distribution, retail, healthcare, pharmaceutical, libraries, government and many others.