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How RTLS Can Get Us Back to Work Safely

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As we move forward toward the re-opening of the economy and physical workplaces, many **health and safety considerations** will need to be made.

Are you ready for the new normal?

Virtually all medical professionals — and medical bodies from America's Centers for Disease Control to the World Health Organization — emphatically say contact tracing is a crucial part of the three-pronged plan for returning the world to normal: test, trace, isolate.

What is contact tracing?

Contact tracing is about identifying, informing, and monitoring people who might have come in contact with a person who has been diagnosed with an infectious disease. It starts with a positive test and involves tracking down anyone that person had contact with so they can be informed they might have been infected.

While it is traditionally a labour-intensive process done by healthcare professionals, an Active RFID real-time locating sys   tem (RTLS) is a tracing technology that can improve the process in the workplace by eliminating ambiguity.

Instead of trying to recall everyone with whom an infected person had close contact with while they may have been infectious, RTLS uses its breadcrumb trail capability to report all connections. By automating the contact tracing process, organizations gain accurate, up-to-date exposure lists.

With GuardRFID's active RFID RTLS technology, organizations can scale up their monitoring strategies in other ways such as path, location, and room tracing.

What is path tracing?

Path tracing is about reducing contact incidents by controlling traffic flow. By monitoring up and down stairwells and directional pathways, organizations can ensure staff are complying with the new routes. The system can either alert users if they are not following the pathways or create reports for review.

RTLS technology is also perfectly suited for time and attendance reporting. The solution can provide real-time automatic roll call of employees on-site at any time. Plus, the technology integrates with payroll system and provides time-stamped entry and exit reports.

What is location tracing?

Location tracing is about controlling, documenting, and coordinating material, people, and object flows through your facility. Using the breadcrumb trail capability, monitor where employees and visitors are and restrict access to safeguard certain areas.

If you have **staff working alone**, location tracing offers an easy and accurate way to know they are safe. With two-way notification and man-down alarming, you can promise maximum security and compliance.

You can also track mandatory equipment and supplies. Raise alarms or lock doors if assets are moved outside of secured areas.

What is room tracing?

Room tracing is about setting and maintaining thresholds and capacities in high traffic areas and rooms to ensure social distancing can be maintained. By integrating a red/green light system, you can automatically alert people when a room is at capacity or if it is open to access.

The system can also help with sanitation. By monitoring usage between cleanings, staff can be alerted when a threshold is met.

Hands-free access

In addition to contact, path, location, and room tracing, RTLS technology can also provide hands-free access to your facility. By integrating a RTLS system with existing access control, automatic door openers can be triggered and contact points reduced. No need for swipe cards, turnstiles or touch panels.

The same technology can also be used to schedule employee access making it easier to manage the number of people in your facility at one time.

Returning to work

A study conducted by **Qualtrics CoreXM** found that two out of three people (66%) are not comfortable going back to the workplace right now. By using technology, organizations can take appropriate action to help employees feel confident during this next phase of the pandemic.

Using a RTLS system to monitor activity also eliminates the need for people to police each other in the workplace. It's a practical way to **get your employees onboard with RTLS**.

GuardRFID's active RFID real-time location system can play a critical role in helping businesses adapt to these new requirements and to see a path forward. **Contact us** for a no-obligation consultation with one of our RTLS experts and see if your organization might be eligible for a complimentary system design.

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THE MYTH OF SUPERWOMAN: WHY EVERY FEMALE ENTREPRENEUR DESERVES A SUPPORT SYSTEM

In the fast-paced world of entrepreneurship, the image of the superwoman persists – the fearless individual who juggles every aspect of her business with unwavering perfection. However, behind the scenes, countless female entrepreneurs grapple with the weight of doing it all. This myth not only affects their well-being but also hampers the true potential of their businesses. In this post, we'll unravel the myth of superwoman and explore why every female entrepreneur deserves a robust support system.

The Pressure to Do It All: The societal expectation for women to excel in their personal and professional lives can lead to a self-imposed pressure to be the mythical superwoman. Research from a study by the Canadian Mental Health Association and Business Development Bank of Canada (BDC) shows the detrimental effects of such pressure on mental health and business performance. The toll of multitasking and trying to excel in every aspect can hinder the growth of a business rather than fuel it.

The True Cost of DIY Entrepreneurship: A deeper look into the financial impact reveals that the do-it-all mindset can be costly. Entrepreneurs investing excessive time in tasks outside their expertise may compromise the quality of their work, leading to missed opportunities and potential client dissatisfaction.

One study found that 80% of entrepreneurs who earn between $100k and $300k hire independent workers.

Redefining Success Through Strategic Support: Success in entrepreneurship shouldn't be measured by how much one can handle alone but rather by the impact and growth achieved. Introducing a support system – whether through outsourcing, hiring, or collaborative partnerships – allows female entrepreneurs to focus on their strengths and drive their businesses forward.

> It's time to dispel the myth of superwoman and acknowledge that true success comes not from doing it all but from doing what matters most exceptionally well.

Female entrepreneurs can unlock their full potential and take their businesses to new heights by building a strong support system. In the upcoming posts, we'll delve into practical strategies for effective delegation and share the success stories of those who have thrived by embracing support.

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The Productivity Edge: Outsourcing vs. Hiring Employees

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In the fast-paced business world, where efficiency and productivity reign supreme, companies should seek the most effective ways to manage the workload. One critical decision that organizations often grapple with is whether to outsource tasks or hire additional employees. Both options have merits, but finding the right balance can provide a competitive edge.

In this post, we'll explore the pros and cons of outsourcing and hiring employees to help you make an informed decision for your business.

Outsourcing: The Power of Specialization

Outsourcing has become an increasingly popular strategy for businesses looking to streamline operations. By

entrusting specific tasks to external experts, organizations can tap into a pool of specialized skills without the commitment of a full-time hire. This approach brings fresh perspectives to the table and allows companies to focus on their core competencies.

Pros of Outsourcing:

1. **Cost Efficiency:** Outsourcing is often more cost-effective than hiring full-time employees, as businesses can pay for services per project or hourly.

2. **Access to Global Talent:** Companies can leverage the expertise of professionals worldwide, accessing a diverse talent pool and staying ahead of industry trends.

3. **Flexibility:** Outsourcing provides the flexibility to scale up or down quickly in response to changing business needs.

Cons of Outsourcing:

1. **Communication Challenges:** Dealing with different time zones and cultural nuances can sometimes lead to communication gaps, affecting project timelines and quality.

2. **Dependency on Third Parties:** Relying too heavily on external partners may pose risks if they fail to meet expectations or encounter issues.

3. **Confidentiality Concerns:** Sharing sensitive information with third parties raises concerns about data security and intellectual property protection.

Hiring Employees: Building an In-House Team

While outsourcing offers flexibility, hiring employees brings a sense of stability and commitment. Building an in-house team fosters a company culture and allows for closer collaboration, but it comes with challenges.

Pros of Hiring Employees:

1. **Dedicated Team:** In-house employees are fully dedicated to the company, fostering a sense of loyalty and commitment to the organization's mission.

2. **Immediate Availability:** Employees are readily available for ongoing projects, ensuring a quicker response than external partners.

3. **Direct Oversight:** With an in-house team, management has direct oversight, facilitating better control over project execution and quality.

Cons of Hiring Employees:

1. **Higher Costs:** Employing full-time staff involves higher salaries, benefits, and overhead expenses.

2. **Limited Expertise:** In-house teams may need specialized skills for specific projects, necessitating additional training or hiring.

3. **Limited Scalability:** Scaling up or down with an in-house team can take time, making it challenging to adapt quickly to market changes.

In the ever-evolving business landscape, outsourcing or hiring employees is not a one-size-fits-all solution. The right approach depends on the unique needs and goals of each organization. Companies that strike the perfect balance between outsourcing and building an in-house team gain a productivity edge, combining the flexibility of external expertise with the stability and commitment of an internal workforce. Ultimately, it's about finding the blend that propels your business to succeed in an increasingly competitive market.

At NRG Ink, we recognize the challenges associated with outsourcing and have developed solutions to address them. As a boutique firm, we distinguish ourselves with a client-centric approach and offer very specific personalized services. We intentionally limit our client base to provide stability and commitment. And we clock out only once the job is done by meeting our client's satisfaction. Let us help: **www.nrgink.ca**

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No staff, but tasks are piling up? It may be time to #outsource a few projects. In this post, we'll explore the pros and cons of outsourcing and #hiring employees to help you make an informed decision for your business. At NRG Ink, a #Canadian-based boutique firm, we offer a level of commitment that goes beyond conventional outsourcing. #marketing #communications #bizdev #virtualassistant

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