

This whitepaper explains the methods IQ reseller users take when collecting data when processing inventory in the warehouse. Each method has its own features and benefits. Understanding the options is essential for determining your strategy.

Tethered Scanning

This is the least expensive and easiest to setup for any user. Ruggedized units may safely be dropped on concrete and are very affordable at \$100 to \$150. IQ reseller recommends the Symbol LS 2200 scanners or similar. They connect to any PC via USB and collect data from manufacturer-provided serial number and product barcodes on the item. Collection of data by scanner is 100% accurate as compared to a 5% error rate for hand typed data.

You will want to program the scanner for an Enter key suffix; this triggers the Enter Key after the scan to advance the cursor to the next item in the grid for rapid fire data recording of serial numbers, corporate asset tags and Microsoft Licensing Certificates. 100 serial numbers may be scanned in less than 100 seconds in IQ reseller.

Wireless Scanning

If you need more freedom of movement to scan items on a pallet then a wireless scanner is the best option. These will cost \$250 to \$400.

Mobile Cart Options

A mobile cart holding a notebook computer, scanner and label printer will allow you the most productivity. The advantage of the cart is that the user has access to all of the features available to them in IQ reseller since the notebook displays the entire application. In addition the notebook provides full access to email and other applications. A wireless access point installed in the warehouse provides the necessary network connection to the mobile cart. Shelf locations may be printed in barcode equivalent. In Excel you can select the Free 3 or 9 font for your shelf location and be sure to place an asterisk in before and after the location. For example location 1E3 would be *1E3*; or there is a barcode generator on the internet at <http://www.barcodesinc.com/generator/index.php> Once printed place them on the shelf warehouse locations. They are easily read by the scanner, allowing easy inventory updates to the inventory location.

A mobile cart system works well for companies processing smaller parts in multiple locations. Space available in shelves, or bins built into the cart, can be used to move parts to various locations in the warehouse updating locations with a scan.

If you choose to use the mfg. serial number as the unique identifier then you would not need the label printer. Simply scan the mfg. serial barcode to reserve goods to the sale and ship.

If you need more portable power simply take a 12 volt automobile battery and attach a DC-to-AC converter to bring the power up to your 110/220 volts to run the printer and the computer. The converter generally costs \$30 to \$40, and the battery slightly more. A trickle charger for the battery recharges it in the evening for the next day. Therefore, a bill of materials to build a cart system is:

Cart System Bill of Materials

1. Cart on wheels with shelves and bins
2. 12 Volt auto battery
3. DC to AC converter
4. Wireless notebook
5. Scanner
6. Wireless access in warehouse
7. 12 volt trickle charger