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## **ComReg says wireless identification technology could increase business efficiency**

The Commission for Communications Regulation (ComReg) issued a briefing note on developments in Radio Frequency Identification (RFID) systems as part of its forward looking programme. The purpose of this document is to help raise awareness of the types of technologies now emerging that can help increase business efficiency.

RFID systems can be considered as a new generation of bar-code technologies that enable information, such as identification codes, to be accessed over the air without the need of direct contact or a direct line-of-sight. Additionally, data can be stored on advanced RFID tags themselves. RFID systems can be applied to enhance business efficiency in many different situations, from automated consumer checkouts in supermarkets to pay-by-weight waste management systems.

Recent technology developments in RFID manufacturing processes are bringing us to the point where low cost RFID technology can be extended to far more applications, potentially generating large amounts of data and corresponding telecommunications traffic. The briefing note document introduces RFID technologies and identifies some of their many potential applications as well market and regulatory issues, particularly relating to the global harmonisation of frequency spectrum for RFID systems to operate.

The Chairperson of ComReg John Doherty said: “The widespread application of RFID technology could provide significant opportunities in the telecommunications industry. Some RFID systems will create large volumes of data which will need to be transported, managed and integrated with existing IT systems. We welcome the emergence of innovative new telecommunications products and services in Ireland to take advantage of the opportunities that RFID systems create.”

The full document 04/79 can be viewed on [www.comreg.ie](http://www.comreg.ie)

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