

Navigation Sensors help automate inventory tracking

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Navigation Sensors help automate inventory tracking

By Billy Bert

NavPax Sensor Units integrate 3-axis MEMS gyros, accelerometers, compass, signal processing, and GPS information to provide complete package for real-time, land-based vehicle tracking solutions. They are used as part of RFID-aided warehouse tracking system that tracks position of each forklift, unique cargo identification, and pick-up and put-down locations of inventory with accuracy to 99%.

Utica NY –September 06 2005 – Integrated Sensors new NavPax Navigation Sensor Units are playing a critical role in a tracking system designed to monitor inventory and increase efficiency in dynamic warehouse environments. Real-time location monitoring of forklifts operating in a one million square-foot facility requires a rugged, automatic and precise navigation and tracking system. To that end, Integrated Sensors, Inc., has co-developed a Radio Frequency Identification (RFID)-aided warehouse tracking system for forklifts and other vehicles. The system, already in use by a Fortune 50 company, tracks the position of each forklift, its unique cargo identification, and the pick-up and put-down locations of the inventory. Within this system, the NavPax Navigation unit help ensure that the forklifts transport and locate inventory throughout the facility safely, quickly, and correctly.

The warehouse tracking system was developed as an automatic procedure to track the stocking and storage of inventory. The system uses RFID technology, which allows the automated forklift to scan the RFID tag on a product, identify the product and pinpoints its exact location in the facility. Additionally, unique RFID tags are buried in the warehouse floor, allowing them to be read by the RFID reader as position updates, when the forklift passes over each tag. The system is able to track products that leave the warehouse and are placed on semi-trailers and rail cars. The NavPax Navigation Sensor has enabled tracking system to achieve cargo pick up and put down location accuracy to 99% compared to 85% for the previous manual system. "The result has been an annual savings of \$1 million on product shrinkage" said Ed McDermott, President of Integrated Sensors, Inc.

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NavPax fully integrates 3-axis MEMS gyros, accelerometers, compass, signal processing and GPS information to provide a complete sensor package for real time land based vehicle-tracking solutions. Integrated Sensors selected MEMS technology as a component in the new NavPax Navigation Sensor

because of their size, affordable combination of bias stability, precise output, and dependable performance through a range of temperatures.

Billy Bert writes for <http://www.surevehicletracking.info> where you can find out more about cheap hotels and other topics.

No Job's Finished Until the Paperwork is Done

By Peggy Hazelwood

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That time of year is quickly approaching... I'm talking about dreaded taxes! To make tax time easier this year and certainly next year, read on.

As is the case with many other small business owners I've talked with, taxes, recordkeeping, and all that darned paperwork are the hardest and most unpleasant parts of running your own business. However, I have established a system for tracking my antiques and collectibles business inventory and expenses, which keeps headaches to a minimum.

Keeping Uncle Sam happy (KUSH) is important, too!

Numerous books on small business operation are available today. I suggest visiting a local bookstore or library and just sitting down with a stack (and there are stacks of them!) to see which one works best for you. My inventory-tracking system works for me because it's simple.

I don't like to do this part of my antiques business, so I have to keep it simple or it would be overwhelming. But as long as I stay on top of things, I'm fine. I estimate that I spend four to six hours a month at the task of recordkeeping (a little more than one hour per week).

I keep an inventory sheet that has five columns: Inventory Number, Description, Purchase Price, Marked (Sold) Price, and Date Sold. Using this simple method helps me track what I've purchased and for what price as well as when it sold.

To track expenses other than inventory, I use a relatively simple software package (Quick Books) on my computer that

totals the numbers I input. The same results can be realized by using a good old notebook, writing down the date of purchase, where purchased, and purchase amount, and totaling the amounts yourself.

Tax preparation is not what I call fun, so I use a tax preparer. For a little more than \$100 a year (which is tax deductible), he does the dirty work, and I keep my

sanity.

Good luck in the "business" end of your business!

Peggy Hazelwood is the author of *From Old to Gold: How to Start and Run an Antiques Business*, \$7.95 ebook available at the Albooktross E-bookstore, <http://www.albooktross.com/>, in the How To category.



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