

In order to maintain proper function and performance of the *Metrc*™ RFID tags on plants and packages, the update below outlines proper tag attachment techniques.

Clarification about RFID: Although RFID systems offer a great many advantages over bar-code, it does have some limitations. In particular, passive RFID (the type of RFID used with *Metrc*) can be limited by several factors:

- Distance – The RFID tag's read distance is controlled by the size of its antenna. The smaller the antenna the shorter the read range. The 1" X 4" inch tag used to tag plants and packages is limited to several feet.
- Metals – RF energy is reflected by metal and can subsequently disturb or reflect the limited amount of energy sent by the tag. Thus tags surrounded by or attached to metals may not work.
- Liquids – Liquids absorb RF energy. RFID tags attached to materials composed primarily of liquids will absorb the tags transmitted RF energy.

With this understanding it is important to make sure plants and packages are tagged appropriately.

Packages

- Package should have the RFID tags attached in a visible location where the tag can be easily seen and scanned.
- RFID Tags should not be placed over the top of one another. If a package is re-used the first tag should be removed, at the very least tags should not be placed over the top of one another.
- Avoid using metal containers such as a metal box or enclosure or bags with a foil lining. This will not allow the tag to read.
- Clear plastic bags or plastic or containers with the tag securely attached to the outside in plain view is optimal.
- The detachable bottom half of the package tag is for discretionary use, but is intended for retail or dispensary use.



Plants

- Small plants such as clones or immature plants should utilize the attachment strap to hold the tag upright in the growth medium. See picture below.



- When plants reach a viable point to support the weight of the tag and attachment strap, the tag should be securely fastened to a lower supporting branch. See image below.



- Tags on larger plants should not be left in the growth medium and should never be covered in the soil.
- Tags must always remain visible and in clear view.

For more information about RFID, you can refer to the *Metrc* website (www.metrc.com) and download the whitepaper on how RFID works and its advantages for the industry. As always, if you have questions please contact the support desk at 877-566-6506 or via email at support@metrc.com.