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Healthcare Slow to Adopt Passive RFID

By Staff

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A survey of healthcare organizations across the United States found that fewer than 23 percent of RFID solutions deployed by healthcare organizations are using passive RFID technology, indicating a slow market acceptance compared to active systems. Why? Vendors are the ones controlling healthcare supply chains, and passive RFID pricing still is considered high, according to Greg Malkary, founder and managing director of Spyglass Consulting Group, which conducted the survey. Of note, the majority of people interviewed were interested in having RFID work with their existing Wi-Fi infrastructure. "We're starting to migrate away from proprietary solutions," Malkary says. As for wide area wireless service providers, there may be an opportunity in offering solutions that track equipment moving from one hospital to another, as many healthcare organizations span a large geographic area, Malkary says. When patients move from one facility to another, the apparatus goes with them, and healthcare organizations want to track that equipment.

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