Swisslog Healthcare Delivers Unmatched Innovation

Eighty percent of hospitals select Swisslog Healthcare TransLogic® Pneumatic Tube Systems to transport patient medications and supplies. Behind our 100 year history is a legacy of innovation. With 25 active tube system patents, our investment in user-driven developments is unmatched.

Why does patented technology matter to hospitals? It means that only Swisslog Healthcare is able to provide many of the features that matter most to facilities, pharmacy, laboratory and nursing staff.
Swisslog Healthcare’s proprietary application of RFID technology solves problems associated with sending, receiving and tracking carriers through a pneumatic tube system.

Automated Carrier Tracking and Delivery Verification

Since 2008, Swisslog Healthcare has delivered patent-protected technology for using radio frequency identification (RFID) technology within pneumatic tube systems (PTS). This technology permits automatic carrier tracking, monitoring and inventory management. RFID technology gives users real-time verification that patient-critical pneumatic tube transactions have arrived at the right station at the right time.

Benefits

— Monitors carrier transport – Verifies end-to-end carrier transport.
— Assigns carrier destination – Reduces risk of health exposure by segregating carriers for designated payloads.
— Automates carrier inventory counts and redistribution.
— Separates carriers for specific transactions to reduce cross—contamination.
— Requires no extra processing steps – supports productivity and user compliance.
— Provides capability to assign carrier “home” location
— Allows “close-loop” auto recovery if system operation is disrupted

How It Works

1. RFID tags are embedded in each carrier; available for 4-inch and 6-inch TransLogic Systems and as an upgrade to other manufacturers’ systems.
2. Carrier RFID tags are programmed with a unique ID number.
3. Tube stations are equipped with receivers that read the tags on dispatch, arrival and interchange points.
4. Destinations can be disallowed for specific carrier IDs to support segregation based on hospital protocols.
5. System automatically captures carrier ID as part of each transaction record.
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Radio Frequency Identification (RFID) Patents

Route Traceability
With Swisslog Healthcare RFID technology, you can record the entire travel path of a delivery for exact traceability and maintenance. Additionally, this allows our Delivery Manager application to provide real-time status information to clinical users.

Dynamic Rerouting
Hospitals are able to configure a Swisslog PTS with RFID throughout the system, not just at stations. Because the RFID tag can be read throughout a delivery, a carrier can be rerouted as needed throughout the system.

Automated Delivery Verification
A critical component for achieving chain-of-custody for medication deliveries, only Swisslog provides automated delivery verification. Without this feature, end users must manually scan carriers to confirm delivery.

Transaction Recovery
Utilizing RFID, only Swisslog Healthcare tube systems offer automatic identification and delivery of a carrier after a system shutdown.

Dynamic Carrier Inventory
Because carriers are uniquely tagged and tracked, the system can monitor for carriers that are introduced in unexpected locations, and automatically update carrier counts for the affected stations, reducing the manual efforts for this task.

Traffic Management Patents

High-Volume Transport
With patented Xpress™ Technology, busy hospitals achieve ultimate efficiency in high-volume transport situations, accommodating simultaneous carrier dispatches and arrivals.

Intuitive Routing
Unlike other PTS systems that reserve an entire route for a transaction, our patented technology can resolve “traffic jams,” enabling greater system throughput.

Pre-Set Variable Speed
We ensure the integrity of lab samples and the urgency of medications by creating speed pre-sets based on the location of a station. For example, assigning a lab station to always be a slow speed station.

Carrier Patents

Carrier/Station Association
Developed with end users in mind, this feature enables hospitals to assign carriers to a certain location, such as the pharmacy or the lab. This logic can, for example, prevent pharmacy carriers from being sent to a laboratory station. It can also prevent cross-contamination of carriers designated for specific payloads.

Inventory Management
Patented automated carrier inventory associates carriers with a “home” station, eliminating the need to cycle count.

Condition Monitoring
Leveraging patented RFID technology, the system can track how often a carrier is utilized and trigger a notification that preventive maintenance should be performed.
With numerous patents for our pneumatic tube systems, Swisslog Healthcare remains the industry leader in both technology depth and customer breadth with patent-protected features and functionality that is unparalleled in the market. Of particular importance is Swisslog Healthcare’s technology patents in dynamic monitoring of carriers and deliveries, delivery confirmation, system recovery and dynamic carrier re-routing. These capabilities provide significant value to customers that only Swisslog Healthcare can legitimately deliver.