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[>> Back to the article](#)

Jan 26, 2006

Can IDA's radio frequency plan still be an engine of growth?

In my research on the internet, I chanced on a website www.spsychips.com which supplements a book about Radio Frequency Identification (RFID) by Katherine Albrecht and Liz McIntyre.

I am very surprised by the negative publicity that RFID is generating in the United States, something which is hardly ever publicised in Singapore.

According to the IDA's website on RFID 'the Infocomm Development Authority of Singapore has devised a three-year \$10 million plan to develop Radio Frequency Identification or RFID technology as an engine of growth for Singapore's ICT industry.

'Under this plan, IDA aims to build five RFID-enabled supply chain clusters by 2006. It will achieve this by bringing together manufacturers, logistics service providers, retailers, infrastructure providers and solutions providers in the high-tech, pharmaceutical and fast moving consumer goods sectors. The adoption of RFID technologies is expected to make these sectors more competitive globally.'

Has IDA taken into account the current backlash on the violation of privacy issues in the US? Should RFID still be relevant as an engine of growth for the ICT industry or is it business as usual?

I hope government agencies have the flexibility of re-looking at their masterplans when the dynamics of the global environment changes. There are accountability issues involved.

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