

Choosing An RF Scanner For Your SAP WM

How to choose the best device



A common question often asked by SAP customers is “Which device should I choose for my warehouse RF integration?”

Or a similar and related question: “Are my RF devices compatible with SAP?”.

Virtually any handheld device can be made to work with SAP, and most will work perfectly fine. But depending on your specific requirements some may work better for you than others.

Most companies running warehouse management either have or plan to implement handheld or vehicle-mounted RF scanners. The technology has been around long enough that it is pervasive in the industry and is relatively cheap to acquire and implement. There’s normally a quick and easy to justify ROI based on the time saved in the warehouse and reduction in errors.

So, with all the options available, does it matter which device you choose?

Our experts who have implemented warehouse RF systems many times say it doesn’t usually make a whole lot of difference, but there are some factors to take into consideration before making a purchase.

Factors to Consider When Choosing RF Devices for SAP

- 1) Like most things, you get what you pay for. Variables such as size, battery life and durability may add to cost, so it often comes down to budget.
- 2) Are you using SAP Console + Telnet server or ITS Mobile? ITS Mobile automatically adjusts already created transactions to different screen types/sizes. If you're running SAP Console you may need to rebuild/reformat already existing RF transactions to fit different device sizes. This is not so much a consideration unless you're replacing already existing devices. You may want to stick to the same screen size to reduce effort/cost in changing the screens.
- 3) What type of warehouse environment do you have? Is it all indoors? Laser scanners work best indoors but can struggle outside in natural light. They also typically can only scan linear barcodes, not QR codes, etc. If you need the latter than look for an Imager.
- 4) Where and how will scanners be used? Some scanners only have a range of a few feet. If you're going to mount them on a forklift or dock doors or try to scan a high rack from the floor then look into more powerful ranged scanners, like the Hyperion 1300g listed below.

Some Devices We Recommend

CONTAX is not a distributor or reseller of RF devices, so our recommendations are based on our experiences in the field, and customers who are happy with the solutions they implemented. Based on our experience, we like the following RF devices:

- [Motorola MC9200 series](#)
- [Zebra TC8000](#)
- [Honeywell Hyperion 1300g](#)

Note that many resellers and integrators will try to push third-party solutions for integration with SAP. This is not necessary. SAP has multiple native integration methods with handheld devices, and standard SAP transactions and screens. Don't be fooled by claims that a third-party integration software solution is necessary.

*Disclaimer: This is by no means a complete list of RF Devices that work with SAP, nor are we implying that other devices don't work well. These are just some of the best devices that we've worked with, based on our experience.



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