AlphaSource Toolsaver RFID System Operation Critique 5/27/2011

The Alphasource Toolsaver RFID System's initial use during the Susquehanna LLC, Unit 2 refuel and inspection outage was a success. Our FME monitors found the program and graphics straight forward and simple to use. "It sure beats paper!" was a typical comment. We also experimented with tools by chipping tools on our refuel floor and at our suppression pool. Our FME monitors had no trouble mastering the art of fastening the chips to tools and initializing them in the system. The real time screen monitoring of tools and the availability of several printable forms combined to provide the FME monitors with all the information they needed to control their work site.

This was not only the system's first use in a plant, it was the first use anywhere. Suggestions for improvement and, yes, start up problems kept me busy the first couple weeks. Alphasource and Northern Apex always responded quickly. With the help of our site IT sponsor we even successfully implemented a revision to the software midway through the outage.

The Alphasource Toolsaver RFID System provides an FME Monitor the tools needed to efficiently meet the administrative demands of an FME Zone 1 control point, and it is so user friendly that people can start using it after just a short familiarization. I definitely recommend this tool.

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