



Frequently asked questions on Xerafy's Metal Skin

1. HOW IS THE METAL SKIN DIFFERENT FROM CURRENT METAL TAGS ON THE MARKET?

Current metal tags available in the market are designed with a spacer (sufficient air gap) to shield the tag antenna from the metal resulting in certain thickness. Most of these tags are also rigid, inflexible and are relatively high cost. The Metal Skin on the other hand is extremely thin, flexible and low priced.

2. HOW VERSATILE AND EFFECTIVE IS THE METAL SKIN?

The Metal Skin is extremely versatile. If read on air or unattached onto a metal item, it can be read on both sides. It can also be read on and off metal surfaces. The global frequency design of the Metal Skin allows application that require the same tag to be read in different countries with different frequency ranges.

3. WHAT IS THE READ DISTANCE OF THE METAL SKIN?

The current Metal Skin can be read up to 13ft (4m) on metal and up to 16 ft (5 m) off metal. Other Metal Skin dimensions and specs will be communicated shortly.

4. WHAT IS THE FREQUENCY RANGE OF THE METAL SKIN?

Metal Skin is designed to respond over the global frequency range, including US, Europe and Japan from 860-960MHz.

5. WHAT IS THE BEND RADIUS OF THE TAG AND HOW DOES IT AFFECT THE TAG'S READ RANGE?

The Metal Skin is the thinnest tag available in the market that can be applied directly onto metal surfaces. The more the tag is bent, the shorter the reading distance. For the purpose of determining a guideline, we've defined acceptable performance as 50 percent of the expected performance. If the tag is horizontally oriented, the minimum bending radius is 1.6 in (40 mm). If the tag is vertically oriented, the minimum bending radius is 1 in (25 mm). Tagging exceeding these recommended ranges will not only affect performance but will also physically damage the tag which could result in a shorten life-span.

6. HOW THIN IS THE METAL SKIN?

The thickness of the Metal Skin inlay and label is 0.026 in (0.66 mm) and 0.03 in (0.8 mm) respectively. Due to Metal Skin's unique design, the thickness of the adhesive should not exceed 0.006 in (0.15 mm). There is no constraint on the thickness of the face-stock material.

7. WHAT FORM FACTORS ARE THE METAL SKIN INLAY AND LABELS AVAILABLE IN?

The Metal Skin will be available in many different form factors. The current inlay measures 3.5 x 1.2 in (90 x 30 mm) while the label measures 4 x 1.5 in (101 x 38 mm). Other labels in different form factors and material compositions will be offered by our qualified converter partners.

8. DOES METAL SKIN COME ENCODED WITH UNIQUE EPC NUMBERS?

The thin and flexible nature of the Metal Skin allows tagging of practically anything metal, especially curved surfaces such as gas/liquid cylinders, pipes and drums. The relatively lower price point of Metal Skin labels opens up possibilities in the consumer market such as electronic products and foil-based items like cigarette cartons and cosmetic packaging.

9. WHAT ARE THE TARGET APPLICATIONS FOR THIS PRODUCT?

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10. IS IT COMPATIBLE WITH INDUSTRY STANDARD PRINTERS?

Yes, printing and encoding Metal Skin labels will be compatible with industry standard printers. As Metal Skin is thicker than traditional inlays, there might be a need to tweak a couple of parameters in the printer setting. Please check with the technical support of your printer vendor.

11. HOW DO I BECOME A QUALIFIED CONVERTER OF THE METAL SKIN?

Please contact Xerafy sales team at sales@xerafy.com and a representative will be in touch with you to explain our Converter Qualification Program.

12. HOW MUCH DOES METAL SKIN COST?

The cost of the Metal Skin is lower than the lowest cost of traditional metal tags available in the market currently. At low volumes it is priced below US\$1 and reduce considerably as volume increases. Prices will also be further reduced as new designs, new materials and other chips are used.

13. HOW DO I BUY THE METAL SKIN?

Samples of Metal Skin can be purchased from Xerafy's online store from June. Before then, please contact your sales rep for samples if you have immediate opportunities. For higher volumes, you can contact our sales team at sales@xerafy.com.