C is for Commissioning

The transponders are mounted, the hardware infrastructure is installed, software is up and running, everything should be working like clockwork, right? Wrong! It requires more than mounting hardware and getting the software on the hard drive to ensure that the RTLS solution meets the requirements of the user. A professional commissioning is the final step in a complex purchasing sequence, the goal of which must be a confirmation that the solution meets ALL the process requirements. This can only be guaranteed if the commissioning is done “SMART”:

S – SPECIFICATION of the individual components in the solution should be checked. This relates not only to type but also quantity. Is the correct amount of RTLS localisation infrastructure available for the project at hand? The amount required can vary greatly depending upon the installation environment and results to be achieved, e.g., in an open area where line-of-sight is pretty much a given requires less infrastructure than an indoor environment with a lot of machinery and architecture.

M – MOUNTING of the hardware is a critical aspect of any RTLS solution and should be checked during commissioning. Hardware in the wrong position, regardless if it is the transponder mounting position on the asset or the satellites used for positioning, can dramatically compromise the performance of the entire solution.
A – ASSESSMENT of the function of the entire solution. This is not only limited to the positioning accuracy of the RTLS solution, attention also needs to be paid to the software used for the day-to-day operation and any data transfer to the customer’s ERP system via API. If the localisation events are not getting to the ERP, bookings will not be generated leading to chaos in the administration of orders.

R – RESOLVE all issues immediately. A professional and thorough commissioning means the handover of a complete solution which fully meets or exceeds the project requirements.

T – TRAINING should be given to all personnel who rely on the RTLS for their day to day activities. The goal should be the effective operation of the RTLS solution as well as the ability to troubleshoot minor issues. Operation, minor troubleshooting and of course the associated documentation should be part of the training program.

To ensure a SMART commissioning, it is vital during the supplier selection process to pay close attention to the service and commissioning capabilities of the solution provider.

For more information on the user-friendly RTLS system of IDENTEC Solutions AG please check our homepage under www.identecsolutions.com or contact us directly on. Don’t forget to check back soon for our next A to Z RTLS instalment!