

Container TRACKER® Glossary

Note: Italics within a definition indicate that the italicized word is also defined in the glossary.

Administrator – The level of security permission that allow configuration of **Container TRACKER®**.

Alarm(s) – *Alarms* are a visual interruption of the user's normal *transaction* process to indicate that an inventory has gone below or above a specific *inventory* level previously set by a system administrator. There are four alarms possible (Low, A, B, High) for each inventory location. Alarms are hierarchal; the 'Low' *Alarm* must be used before the 'A' *Alarm* is available for use, the 'High' *Alarm* must be used before the 'B' *Alarm* is available for use. Alarms default to 'Off' with a standard *Alarm* message. The *Administrator* can turn *Alarms* 'On' for specific *Inventory Locations* and can create custom *Alarm* messages for any *Alarm* condition.

Assets *Items* that have a significant value.

Automated Interface – A batch processing program that is an extension of **Container TRACKER®**. This program supports a *Standard Automation Interface* to allow communication between other software and hardware systems and **Container TRACKER®**. The Automated Interface allows **Container TRACKER®** to interface with other software systems and barcode, RFID and GPS hardware systems. **Container TRACKER®** supports *Location Aliases* and *Item Aliases* that translate the names and numbers used by external hardware and software to the names configured within **Container TRACKER®**.

Bulk Item – An *Item Type* that does not have a serial number or *Item* specific identification. *Item Types* are *Bulk Items* or *Non-Serialized Items* and *Serialized Items*. **Container TRACKER®** tracks both *Item Types* easily and efficiently. The terms *Bulk Items* and *Non-Serialized Items* are used interchangeably throughout discussions relative to **Container TRACKER®** and within the **Container TRACKER®** software.

Category – A grouping of like *Item Types*. Typical categories could be Tanks, Pallets, Trucks, Racks and so on. Each *category* has one or more *Item Types*. *Categories* allow you to get *inventory* or *transaction* results.

Container – A single instance of an *Item Type*. For example, a 350 Gallon Stainless Steel Tank is an *Item Type*; a 350 Gallon Stainless Steel Tank with serial number 123456 is a *Container*. The terms *Item* and *Container* are used interchangeably throughout discussions relative to **Container TRACKER®** and within the **Container TRACKER®** software.

Container Alias – A name created within **Container TRACKER®** to match the names used for *Items* by external hardware or software. *Container Aliases* simplify the process of interfacing **Container TRACKER®** with other hardware and software. The terms *Item Alias* and *Container Alias* are used interchangeably throughout discussions relative to **Container TRACKER®** and within the **Container TRACKER®** software.

Container Type – A definition of a collection of *Containers* that applies to all *Containers* of that type. The terms *Item Type* and *Container Type* are used interchangeably throughout discussions relative to **Container TRACKER®** and within the **Container TRACKER®** software.

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Cycle – The patterned movement of an asset from a location to other valid locations and eventually be returned to its original location.

Cycle Time – the time required for a particular item to travel from a specific Location through its normal path of movement and return to the original specific Location.

Cyclic Asset – *Assets* (containers, items, vehicles) that regularly move between facilities controlled by the owner of the asset and facilities controlled by non-owners of the asset or from areas of high control to areas of lesser control.

Cyclic Asset Tracking – The type of tracking performed by **ContainerTRACKER®**. This kind of tracking assumes that there is a definition of performance and an agreement between owners and non-owners about the *performance definition*.

Data Aware – Most **ContainerTRACKER®** selection features are Data Aware. This means that three conditions have to be present for the features to be active; they are 1) the feature must be purchased with **ContainerTRACKER®**, 2) the feature must be configured by the *user*, and, the data that the *user* entered in the database must be available and relevant for the feature's control to be active. This is the reason that some controls are available sometimes and not available at others. This is most obvious when selecting Transaction or Inventory reports. As the *user* progresses through the selection criteria initial selections cause some future selection options to be disabled. This is because there is no data that meets the combination of the two criteria.

Dwell – The amount of time in days a specific item is allowed to stay at a specific location. Dwell can be set for each *Item Type* for each *Inventory Location*.

Fundamental Control – The systematic process of exercising direction, restraint or regulation over something. Fundamental control has three steps;

- 1) a plan defining the expected performance,
- 2) monitoring of actual performance to assess the performance relative to the plan (is this system working?), and,
- 3) the will and ability to correct or compensate for the difference between the plan and the performance.

Inventory – The numeric quantity of an *Item Type*.

Inventory Location – A combination of an *Item Type* and a *Location*. Inventory is kept and movement *rules* are established by *Inventory Locations*

Item – A single instance of an *Item Type*. For example, a 350 Gallon Stainless Steel Tank is an *Item Type*; a 350 Gallon Stainless Steel Tank with serial number 123456 is an *Item*. The terms *Item* and *Container* are used interchangeably throughout discussions relative to **ContainerTRACKER®** and within the **ContainerTRACKER®** software.

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Item Alias – A name created within **ContainerTRACKER®** to match the names used for *Items* by external hardware or software. *Item Aliases* simplify the process of interfacing **ContainerTRACKER®** with other hardware and software. The terms *Item Alias* and *Container Alias* are used interchangeably throughout discussions relative to **ContainerTRACKER®** and within the **ContainerTRACKER®** software.

Item Type – A definition of a collection of items that applies to all items of that type. The terms *Item Type* and *Container Type* are used interchangeably throughout discussions relative to **ContainerTRACKER®** and within the **ContainerTRACKER®** software.

Level(s) – See *Locations*.

Location(s) – A physical *location*, *status*, or combination of the two. *Locations* are sometimes called *Levels*. Examples: Dock 12 is a physical *location*; Broken and Allocated are *Statuses*; Cleaning Facility could indicate both a *Location* (the Cleaning Facility) and a *status* (clean). When *Location* is capitalized it has the meaning location/status. Within **ContainerTRACKER®** there are two types of *Locations*; *Source Locations* and *Tracked Locations*.

Location Alias – A name created within **ContainerTRACKER®** to match the names used for *Locations* by external hardware or software. *Location Aliases* simplify the process of interfacing **ContainerTRACKER®** with other hardware and software.

Non-Serialized Item – An *Item Type* that does not have a serial number or *Item* specific identification. *Item Types* are *Non-Serialized Items* or *Bulk Items* and *Serialized Items*. **ContainerTRACKER®** tracks both *Item Types* easily and efficiently. The terms *Bulk Items* and *Non-Serialized Items* are used interchangeably throughout discussions relative to **ContainerTRACKER®** and within the **ContainerTRACKER®** software.

Over Dwell – The amount of time in days a specific item is has remained at a specific *Location* beyond the allowed *Dwell Time*. *Over Dwell* is used for exception reporting. *Items* that are in an *Over Dwell* condition are, by definition, not performing according to plan.

Pending Transactions – *Transactions* that are in transit between two *Locations*. *Pending Transactions* are used when there is a finite delivery time between *Locations*. *Pending Transactions* perform the inventory math on the 'From' *Location* at the time of the *Transaction*. The addition of the *Items* to the 'To' *inventory* is delayed for the number of pending days entered. This provides accurate *inventories* that account for *inventory* in transit.

Performance Definition – A definition of the expected performance of an asset within its normal use.

Reporting Database – A Microsoft® Access® database that provides tracking information externally for use with other hardware and software.

Rules – Or movement rules. A definition of the locations where an item type is allowed. Rules in **ContainerTRACKER®** prevent you from moving an asset to a location where it should not be.

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Serialized Item – An *Item Type* that has a serial number or *Item* specific identification. *Item Types* are *Non-Serialized Items* or *Bulk Items* and *Serialized Items*. **ContainerTRACKER®** tracks both *Item Types* easily and efficiently. The terms *Bulk Items* and *Non-Serialized Items* are used interchangeably throughout discussions relative to **ContainerTRACKER®** and within the **ContainerTRACKER®** software.

Source Location – A *Location* that cannot be inventoried or that the *inventory* is of no concern to the tracking organization. Item suppliers, like pallet manufacturers, are an example of a *Source Location*. You are not concerned or cannot know the inventory of a source location. *Transactions* between a *Source Location* and a *Tracked Location* have the effect of adding or subtracting *Items* from the total amount of *Items* tracked by the system.

Standard Automation Interface (SAI) – A record definition that defines a straight-forward interface for external hardware and software. Interfacing **ContainerTRACKER®** with other hardware is a straight-forward, three step process; 1) configuring **ContainerTRACKER®**, 2) identifying and creating *Location Aliases* and *Item Aliases*, and, 3) exporting records from the external hardware or software in the *SAI* format.

Status – An identification of a characteristic of an *asset* – clean, damaged, allocated, in transit, missing etc.

Tracked Location – A *Location* where the *tracking* organization maintains an *inventory*.

Tracking Exercising control over *assets* by assessing information about performance relative to a formal plan and agreement

Transaction – The movement of an *asset* from one *Location* to another.

Transaction Modes – **ContainerTRACKER®** Main Screen operating modes. There are three for serialized item types; Move, Find and Inventory. There are two for non-serialized item types; Move and Inventory.

User(s) – The level of security permission that allow use of **ContainerTRACKER®**. *Users* are restricted from configuring **ContainerTRACKER®**.

User Information *User Information* is information that **ContainerTRACKER®** associates with an individual *Transaction*. This is information provided by the *user* that **ContainerTRACKER®** has no knowledge of. That means the *user* is in control of the requirements and content for the *User Information*. The *user* has control of three fields on the front screen and 26 fields on the additional information screen for data they want to associate with a *Transaction*. This information is used for Product Names, Invoice numbers, Bills-of-Lading and other customer information.

User List – *User Lists* are data controlled by the *user* that can be loaded into the **ContainerTRACKER®** database. This allows the *user* to pick items for *user information* from a predefined list of previously entered data. Often *user lists* contain product numbers or names.