

Linked Exchange



Linked Exchange allows your company to share asset information with partners in your supply chain who also use TrackAbout, enabling both organizations to see the exchange of assets between facilities.

Typically, your partners keep their own records of deliveries and returns. When you make a delivery, the partner manually records the properties of every asset they receive. This includes the type of asset, who owns it, when it was delivered, its lot number and other key properties. Even though you already entered this information into your TrackAbout system, your partner must manually key it into their tracking system. Often, their records don't match yours which can cause a number of disputes.

When both you and your partner use TrackAbout, Linked Exchange shares asset information between the two independent TrackAbout tracking systems. Redundancy of re-initializing assets is eliminated as they move from one organization to another and the receiving entity doesn't have to duplicate the effort of labeling and classifying assets. Information is entered into the shared system one time and it is re-usable by independent companies throughout the common supply chain.

Linked Exchange is recommended for these common situations:

- Your customer wants to track assets they rent or lease from you as well as assets that you do not control, such as assets from a competitor or other assets that you do not supply.
- Your customer wants asset tracking abilities but, for reasons like business confidentiality or patient privacy, wants to keep the movement of your assets private.
- Your customer or supplier already uses TrackAbout and you both want to increase efficiencies and reduce costs.

Avoid Duplicate Costs

When you scan deliveries made to your partner, the assets show up in their TrackAbout system already tagged with barcodes and with all of their properties already set. This saves your partner all of the time of adding assets to their system. All they need to do is scan these assets as they process deliveries and returns. Also, Linked Exchange enables both systems to use the same tracking label (barcode or RFID tag) so that multiple labels are not affixed to the same asset.

Single View of the Truth

With Linked Exchange, asset balances are more accurate as both you and your partner reference the same set of data. If disputes arise, they can be addressed and fixed quickly. Your partner will appreciate doing business with you because they'll spend less time resolving inaccuracies and more time managing their business.

Enhanced Partner Relationships

Sharing asset information increases the connections between you and your partner and strengthens your relationship. Your partner will be hesitant to find a different supplier as they would experience a decrease in efficiency by having to regress to manually keying tracking information.

Maintain Autonomy

Even though data is shared between TrackAbout systems, each system maintains a separate database with all the TrackAbout features and benefits associated with it. Only the asset's current properties are shared. The movement history and other information about the asset's activities are kept private and are not shared. You do not have visibility into your partner's business, and vice versa.

TRACKABOUT LINKED EXCHANGE FEATURES & FUNCTIONS

Simple Set-Up

- Individual TrackAbout systems linked with a one-time set-up
- Easily link with multiple partners who also use TrackAbout
- A “sender” partner scans assets for exchanges and pushes information into the system of the “receiver” partner

Product Code Mapping Monitor

- Requires receiving partner to map information from the sending partner’s TrackAbout system
 - Sender locations – a sender delivers to a location which maps to a recipient’s customer
 - Sender customers – a sender delivers to a customer which maps to a recipient’s location
 - Sender product codes – sender product codes, including the category, group and type, are mapped to recipient product codes
- Failed messages appear on the TrackAbout Dashboard with links directly to Manage Partner Mappings page to correct the identified issue

Manage Partner Mappings Page

- Shows the types of mappings in place
 - Sender locations to recipient customer
 - Sender customers to recipient location
 - Product code mappings between the sender’s and recipient’s product codes
- Filter mappings
 - Show all
 - Show only items needing mapped
- Invalid mappings appear as an alert at the top of the page

Queues

- Sender queue
 - Shows all messages sent to Linked Exchange partners
 - Filter by start date, end date, partner or status
 - Outbound queue lists messages sent with basic information about the record including partner name, date, status (waiting to send, sent, failed, pending retry), action that triggered the message, number of assets on the record and associated customer
- Recipient queue
 - Shows all messages received from any Linked Exchange partners
 - Filter by start date, end date, partner or status
 - Inbound queue lists messages received with basic information about the record including partner name, date, status (pending, processed, missing mappings, failed, pending retry), action that triggered the message, number of assets on the record, associated location and associated customer

Data Fields Sent with Linked Exchange Transfer

- Barcode or Tracking Number
- Serial Number
- Delivery or Return
- Barcode scanned or keyed in for this transfer
- Date of the transfer
- Owner
- Category Name
- Group Name
- Type Name
- Product Code
- Product Code Description
- Lot or Batch Number
- Expiration Date
- Retest Date

