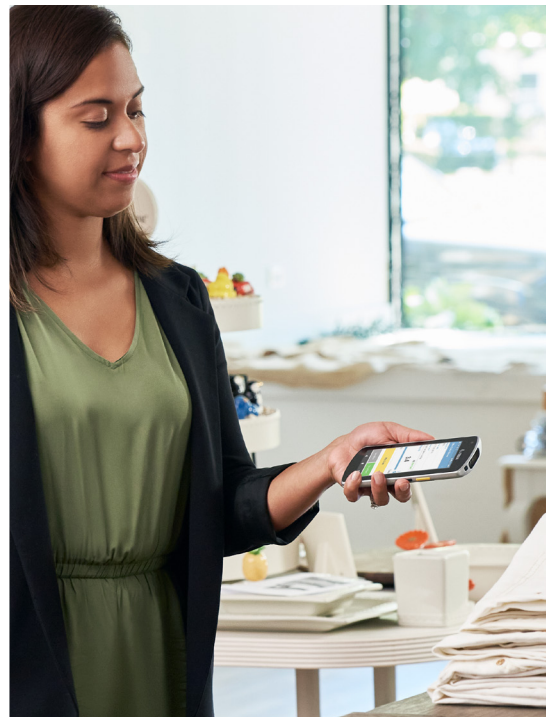# Make lost wearable scanners a thing of the past with Zebra's Device Tracker

Easily track and find Zebra wearable scanners with industry-first firmware BLE beacon

The challenge

The high cost of misplaced wearable scanners

Zebra's RS5100 and RS6100 wearable barcode scanners give your workforce the hands-free scanning they need to maximize productivity. Less than three ounces and three cubic inches, these cordless and featherlight devices provide all day comfort — but their tiny size also makes them very easy to lose.

These little devices can easily end up in a pocket, on a shelf in the warehouse, lost in a sea of paper in a packing station — or even in a customer order. While these small devices are easy to lose, they are not easy to find. And every lost scanner can impact productivity, customer service quality and the return on your mobility investment.

For example, you may not have enough wearable scanners on hand for workers at the start of a shift, substantially impacting productivity. Time workers spend trying to locate a misplaced device can easily exceed the cost of the device itself. Time spent searching for devices instead of fulfilling orders reduces productivity and could even impact the ability to deliver orders on time. And the need to constantly purchase, configure and deploy replacements for devices that weren't near the end of their lifecycle creates more work for purchasing and IT staff — and erodes the benefits of your mobility solution by increasing your total cost of ownership.

Considering every second counts in today's fight for supply chain efficiency, each missing scanner has a significant impact. But trying to find a tiny scanner in a vast warehouse can be like looking for a needle in a haystack — until now.

Trying to find a tiny wearable scanner in a vast warehouse can be like looking for a needle in a haystack — until now.

The solution

No more missing wearable scanners with Zebra's Device Tracker

How it works: an overview

Now, a new feature is available for Zebra's RS5100 and RS6100 wearable scanners that solves this problem — BLE Beaconing. This feature is included with all new RS5100/RS6100 scanners — and the feature can be easily enabled in your existing RS5100/RS6100 scanners with a simple no-cost firmware upgrade and the purchase of a Device Tracker Bluetooth Peripheral license.

BLE Beaconing works with Device Tracker, a Zebra Mobility DNA high-value software tool that makes it easy to pinpoint the location of a missing device. No more time consuming searches. And no more workflow interruptions when a wearable scanner is misplaced. Now you can create a virtual tether to prevent workers from leaving their wearable scanner or mobile computer behind — and easily locate missing devices.

Prevent misplaced devices with Virtual Tether

Device Tracker's Virtual Tether feature helps prevent workers from misplacing Zebra wearable scanners and mobile computers in the first place. Both the connected wearable scanner and mobile computer will begin beeping and flashing whenever the Bluetooth connection is lost – alerting workers that they've left their wearable scanner or mobile computer behind. You can set the preferred combination of scanner and mobile computer notifications, including scanner beep and/or LED, mobile computer audible tone, haptics and LED (available notifications vary by model). When a device is lost, Device Tracker makes it easy to find.

How to find misplaced devices with Device Tracker

1

Step 1 — Setup: define your beaconing conditions

Configure the conditions upon which the RS5100/RS6100 will begin to beacon with just a few clicks:

- **Unintended disconnection with paired device:** When the wearable scanner is paired to a mobile computer and the connection is lost — for example, when a worker misplaces a scanner during a shift.
- **Low battery:** When the wearable scanner reaches a low battery level and is on Ultra Low Battery mode. This feature can also help eliminate downtime caused by a depleted battery.
- **Not in use or unaccounted for:** When the RS5100/RS6100 scanner is not paired with a mobile computer and is not charging on a cradle.

2

Step 2 — View missing wearable scanners

When an RS5100/RS6100 scanner is missing, managers can open Device Tracker on a Zebra mobile computer or desktop to view all missing scanners. You can see the approximate last known location or where the Bluetooth connection to the host mobile computer was lost, as well as the mobile computer that a wearable scanner was last paired to — and easily assign Find Device Work Orders to retrieve the missing device.

3

Step 3 — Find a missing wearable scanner in minutes

Any worker or manager can simply open the Device Tracker application on any Zebra mobile computer with a Device Tracker license to accept a work order to find a missing device. Workers then travel to the last known location and activate the intuitive proximity indicator, which visually indicates whether workers are getting closer or farther from the missing device.
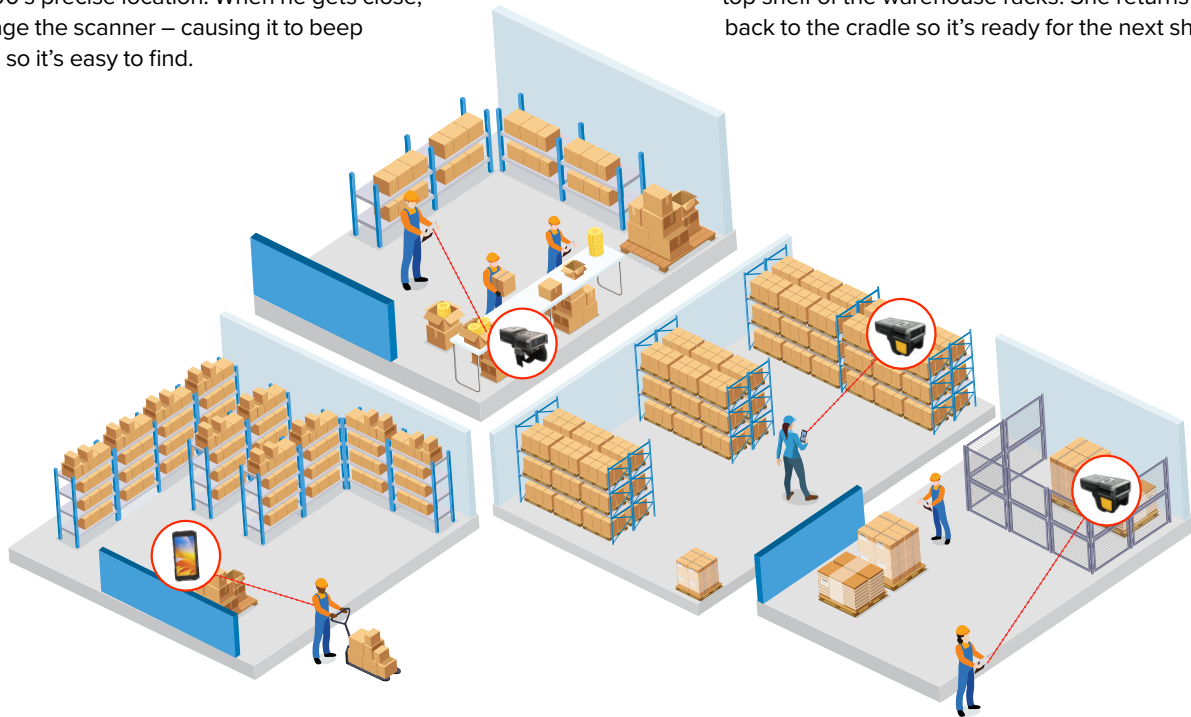
Device Tracker in action

If your business struggles with lost and misplaced wearable scanners, Device Tracker is the answer you've been waiting for. It's the easy way to eliminate the lost productivity when workers need to search for their wearable scanners — and the high replacement costs when scanners cannot be found.

Scenario 1
A warehouse worker quickly locates his missing wearable scanner

After break, a worker realizes he can't find his RS6100 wearable scanner. In the past, he may have needed to report it missing to his manager. Now, he simply opens the Device Tracker app on his WT6300 wearable computer and an easy-to-use proximity indicator guides him to the RS6100's precise location. When he gets close, he can page the scanner – causing it to beep and flash, so it's easy to find.

Scenario 2
A warehouse manager tracks down a missing wearable scanner

A warehouse manager is notified of a missing RS5100 scanner in her department. She opens the Device Tracker app on her TC52ax mobile computer and sees the missing scanner reported on her dashboard. The proximity indicator leads her right to the missing scanner, which was left on the top shelf of the warehouse racks. She returns the scanner back to the cradle so it's ready for the next shift.

Scenario 3
Worker receives an instant alert that he is leaving his mobile computer behind

A warehouse worker is transporting boxes with a hand cart. After confirming the destination loading dock, he accidentally leaves his TC72 mobile computer behind. With Device Tracker, there's no lost device — and no workflow interruption. Since he's wearing his RS6100 wearable scanner, it beeps and flashes as soon as it loses the Bluetooth connection with the TC72. He can simply retrace his last few steps, retrieve the TC72 and get back to work.
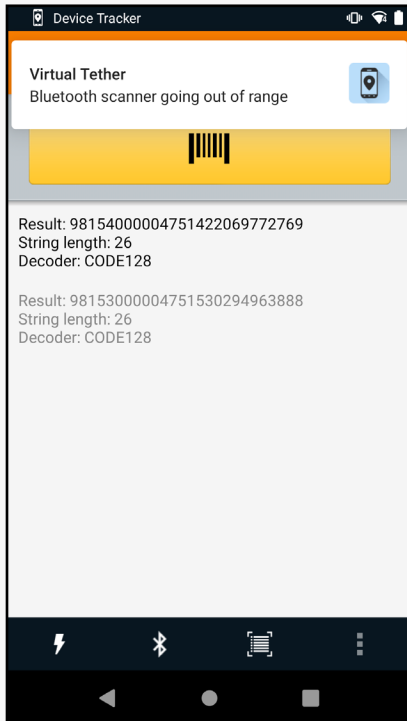
Scenario 4
Worker receives an instant alert that she is leaving her wearable scanner behind

In the middle of picking, a warehouse worker is asked to handle an urgent task. Distracted by the new task, she sets the RS5100 down on some boxes and walks away. In the past, the RS5100 scanner may have been lost forever.
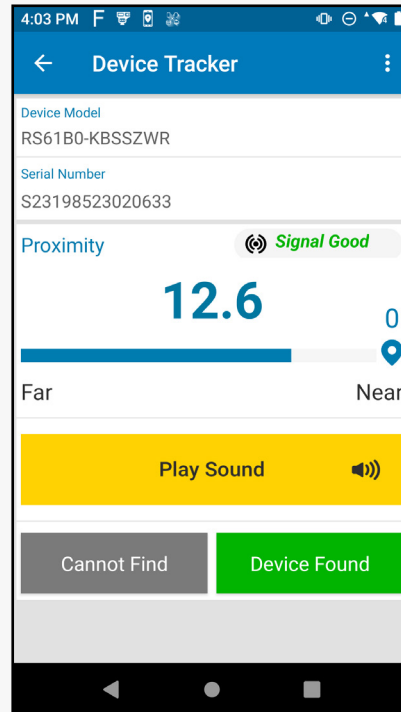
But with Device Tracker, as soon as she walks out of range of the RS5100, her mobile computer begins to beep — an alert that her wearable scanner has been left behind. The RS5100 beeps and flashes as well, making it easy to locate.
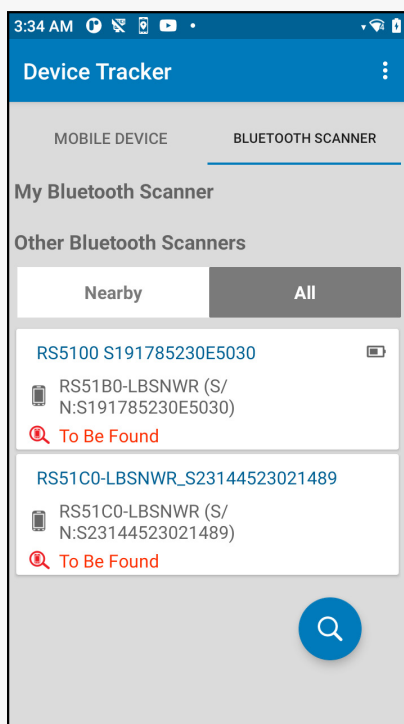
The power of fast and easy recovery

Virtual Tether
Alerts users when the Bluetooth connection between the host mobile computer and wearable scanner is about to be lost; helps to prevent devices from being misplaced in the first place.
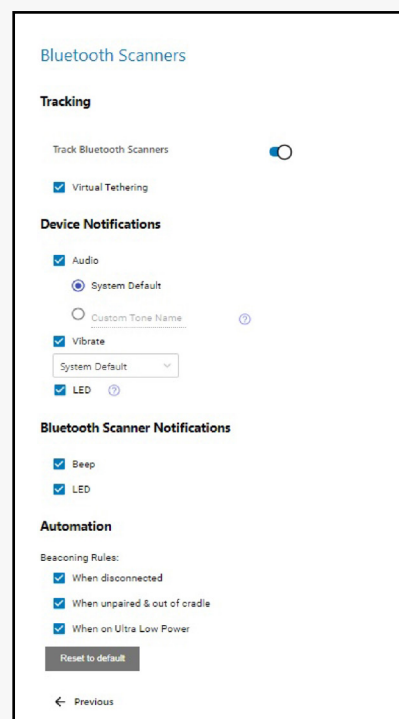

Proximity Indicator/ Geiger Counter
Indicates whether users are moving closer to or farther from a lost device; Play Sound function pages the missing scanner to make it easy to find.

Other Bluetooth scanners
Displays all devices at a site that need to be recovered; enables managers and workers to locate and retrieve any missing device.

Intuitive interface for configuration
Allows even inexperienced administrators to easily set up Device Tracker rules with just a few clicks.

Device Tracker benefits

- Minimize replacement costs by preventing wearable scanner loss

- Eliminate workflow interruptions and lost productivity caused by a lost scanner

- Maximize device availability and utilization

- Maximize device return on investment (ROI)

What you need

Supported wearable scanners with a Device Tracker Bluetooth Peripheral license:

- RS5100 or RS6100 Wearable Scanner

Supported mobile computers with a Device Tracker license:

- TC2X
- TC5X
- TC7X
- WT6300
- MC9300

One major retailer reported a 90% reduction in the loss of wearable scanners after implementing Device Tracker for Wearable Scanners. For more information, please visit www.zebra.com/devicetracker

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