



SOLUTION BRIEF

KEEPING CREWS READY AND EQUIPMENT ACCOUNTABLE

Preventing Loss and Building Confidence in
Emergency Services



INTRODUCTION

Fire and emergency services depend on their equipment as much as their people. Radios, breathing apparatus, pumps, protective clothing, and specialist gear all play critical roles in operations. Yet across stations and brigades, equipment is constantly moving—shift to shift, between caches and vehicles, and out to incidents.

Despite strong procedures, losses remain a persistent problem. Items are misplaced, transferred without record, or overlooked in manual checks. By the time they are noticed missing, the trail has usually gone cold, recovery is difficult, and replacement is the only option.

At the same time, the pressure to prove readiness is growing. Managers need confidence that every vehicle is fully equipped, regulators require auditable records of checks, and communities expect their emergency services to be operationally certain.

This paper explores how asset visibility technology like Good To Go can address both challenges: preventing equipment loss through early discovery, and building confidence in readiness through fast, comprehensive checks and operational data capture.

WHY THE TRAIL GOES COLD

The difference between recovering equipment and losing it permanently is timing.

Immediate Discovery:

When an item is flagged missing within hours, accountability is clear. Crews recall where it was last used, vehicles are still at base, and recovery rates are high.

Delayed Discovery

After a week, rosters rotate, subcontractors move to other sites, and vehicles are reassigned. Accountability blurs and the list of possible locations grows.

Late Discovery

At a monthly or quarterly stocktake, the trail is stone cold. No one knows where to look, and the item is written off.

The longer the gap between loss and discovery, the higher the cost. The issue is not just loss—it is late discovery.

THE READINESS CHALLENGE

Loss prevention addresses one dimension of the problem, but emergency services also face the daily challenge of ensuring crews are ready to roll out with complete equipment sets.

Volunteer Brigades:

Members often arrive just minutes before deployment. They need a simple, fast way to confirm their vehicles are complete.

Manual Methods:

Traditional checks can take hours and are easily skipped under time pressure, or lazily completed.

The Cost Of Assumption:

Sending out an under-equipped crew introduces operational risk and undermines confidence.

With Good To Go, a full vehicle or cache check can be completed in minutes. Missing items are flagged instantly, and the checker is made accountable for resolving them. For volunteer crews especially, this is the difference between scrambling in doubt and rolling out with confidence.

BEYOND EQUIPMENT PRESENCE: OPERATIONAL DATA AT YOUR FINGERTIPS

Modern asset visibility is not just about confirming that an item exists—it's about making its key operational information instantly available.

When an item is scanned, either by RFID or QR code, Good To Go can present data such as:

- **Service life and expiry dates** – e.g. oxygen cylinder serving, chemical suit expiry, or life jacket expiration.
- **Usage history** – pump run hours, cylinder fills, or battery charge cycles.
- **Inspection status** – the last completed inspection and the next one due.
- **Issue reporting** – ability to log faults or damage on the spot and route them to the correct logistics service (HAZMAT, Rescue, Fleet, etc.).

This transforms each piece of equipment into a smart asset, carrying its own digital record and context, always available to responders online.



Accountability Through Tasking and Snapshots

Good To Go ensures that checks are not only performed but verifiable. Every manifest check or stocktake creates a time-stamped snapshot of who checked, when, and what was found.

- Managers can prove readiness to regulators and oversight bodies.
- Station officers and volunteers know they are accountable for their checks.
- Command has organisation-wide visibility of capability status in real time.

This turns compliance from a burden into a natural part of daily operations.

BENEFITS FOR EMERGENCY SERVICES



Hot trails, not cold ones

Missing items are identified early, when recovery is still possible.



Improved readiness confidence

Missing items are identified early, when recovery is still possible.



Reduced replacement costs

More gear is recovered, less written off.



Time savings

Hours of manual checks replaced by fast, automated scans.



Operational intelligence

Expiry dates, usage hours, and inspection records available at the point of scan.



Better accountability

Snapshots and routing of issues create a culture of responsibility and compliance.

CONCLUSION

For emergency services, equipment management is about more than avoiding loss. It is about ensuring readiness, confidence, and accountability every single day.

The challenge is that traditional methods discover missing equipment too late, when the trail has gone cold. Meanwhile, manual completeness checks are slow, burdensome, and prone to lack of diligence in completing them.

With Good To Go, emergency services can break this cycle. Lightweight checks keep the trail hot and prevent losses. A completeness check performed in minutes gives crews certainty before deployment. Smart asset data ensures every item is not only present, but serviceable. And audit trails hold stations and individuals accountable.

The result is an organisation that is more prepared, more efficient, and more confident—ready for the call, every time.



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