

## **Radio Frequency Identification (RFID) Lab**

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### **Villanova, tech group working on RFID**

Ben Franklin Technology Partners (BFTP) of Southeastern Pennsylvania said Wednesday that it and Villanova University have agreed to use the University's Radio Frequency Identification Lab to foster research that can be commercialized by new and existing technology companies in the Philadelphia region.

The lab is part of Villanova's Center for Advanced Communications, which also includes the Antenna Research Lab, the Wireless Communications and Positioning Lab and the Radar Imaging Lab.

Research under the agreement will be focused on attracting company clients for the lab. Villanova also hopes to use it to attract exceptional students and encourage interactions with other organizations throughout the world.

Radio Frequency Identification, or RFID, technology is growing in popularity as a means of providing identification and storing information. Uses of it include tracking goods from creation to purchase and enabling consumers to buy items by passing an RFID-enabled card near an RFID reader.

The agreement builds on a 12-year partnership aimed at creating an infrastructure for technical innovation, applied research and commercialization in the Philadelphia area.

They recently agreed to share revenue generated by Villanova's Center for Advanced Communications through corporate engagements and grants secured as a result of joint activities.

Ben Franklin Technology Partners of Southeastern Pennsylvania is one of four state-funded organizations that promote technology-based economic development in Pennsylvania. Each serves a specific region of the state. Three bear the Ben Franklin name; the one serving southwestern Pennsylvania is called Innovation Works Inc.