



ASSETNIXA

Asset Tagging & Identification

A practical field guide

Building the identification backbone for
operationally-ready infrastructure assets

assetnixa.com

Turning asset data into operational intelligence

Tagging is where operational readiness begins.

Asset tagging looks simple — a label, an ID, a code. In practice, it is the identification backbone of every downstream activity: the asset register, maintenance, inspections, GIS, and the eventual handover to operations.

When tagging is done well, every asset can be found, identified and trusted across its whole lifecycle. When it is rushed or inconsistent, the cost compounds — duplicated records, unscannable labels, and assets nobody can locate.

Here are eight practices that separate tagging that lasts from tagging that has to be redone.

Eight practices for tagging that lasts

01 Start with a tagging standard

WHY IT MATTERS

Without an agreed taxonomy and numbering convention, the same asset ends up labelled differently across teams — and nothing reconciles later.

WHAT GOOD LOOKS LIKE

Define a clear asset hierarchy, naming and numbering standard before any tags are issued, and govern it centrally.

02 Tag for operations, not just construction

WHY IT MATTERS

Tags created only to close out construction rarely carry what operations need to run and maintain the asset.

WHAT GOOD LOOKS LIKE

Capture operational identifiers and attributes (criticality, system, location, parent asset) at the point of tagging.

03 Give every asset a unique, traceable ID

WHY IT MATTERS

Duplicate or reused IDs break work orders, reporting and any link back to documents and drawings.

WHAT GOOD LOOKS LIKE

Issue globally unique IDs and keep a single authoritative register that every tag traces back to.

04 Use durable, field-ready labels

WHY IT MATTERS

Tags that fade, fall off or can't be scanned in the field defeat the purpose the moment crews arrive on site.

WHAT GOOD LOOKS LIKE

Specify durable label materials and add a machine-readable code (QR or barcode) linked to the asset record.

05 Capture location with every tag

WHY IT MATTERS

An asset you can't locate is an asset you can't inspect or maintain efficiently.

WHAT GOOD LOOKS LIKE

Record spatial coordinates as part of tagging so assets are findable in GIS and on the ground.

06 Validate as you tag

WHY IT MATTERS

Errors caught after handover are far more expensive than errors caught at the point of capture.

WHAT GOOD LOOKS LIKE

Apply validation rules continuously — uniqueness, completeness, format and referential integrity — not as a final step.

07 Link tags to the register and documents

WHY IT MATTERS

A tag with no connection to the asset register, drawings and manuals is just a sticker.

WHAT GOOD LOOKS LIKE

Connect each tag to its register entry and supporting documents so the identifier unlocks the full asset record.

08 Plan for handover and the operator's system

WHY IT MATTERS

Tags that don't map to the operator's CMMS, EAM or GIS have to be reworked before they're usable.

WHAT GOOD LOOKS LIKE

Align the tagging structure to the operator's target systems from the outset, so data loads cleanly at handover.

Building or fixing an asset tagging programme?

Assetnixa helps infrastructure teams design tagging standards, generate and validate tags, and load them cleanly into operational systems. Book a free discovery call at assetnixa.com or email contact@assetnixa.com.