APPENDIX A

Category	Goal	FY 2016-2017	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3
Newly Issued	0 11				
Library Cards	Goal 4 – 5%	8,274	8,688	9,122	9,578
Circulation Total	Goal 4 – 5%	614.272	C44.00C	677.004	744.004
Circulation rotal	(based on overall)	614,272	644,986	677,234	711,096
Materials	Goal 4 – 5%	512,437	538,089	564,962	593,210
Renewals	Goal 4 – 5%	69,142	72,600	76,229	80,041
Honor Books	Goal 4 – 5%	21,574	22,653	23,785	24,975
eBooks	Goal 4 – 5%	11,119	11,675	12,259	12,872
Tumblebooks (started in Oct)	Goal 4 – 5%	0	1,000	1,050	1,102
Programs Total	Goal 1 - Maintain	1,087	1,087	1,087	1,087
Program Adults	Goal 1 - Maintain	138	138	138	138
Program Children's	Goal 1 - Maintain	841	841	841	841
Program Outreach	Goal 1 - Maintain	108	108	108	108
Program Technology	Goal 2 – 60	None	60	60	60
Programs Total Participants	Summary of Goals	24,844	26,053	27,311	28,631
Program Adult Participants	Goal 1 – 3%	2,161	2,225	2,292	2,361
Program Children's Participants	Goal 1 – 5%	20,710	21,756	22,844	23,986
Program Outreach Participants	Goal 3 - 5%	1,973	2,072	2,175	2,284
Program Technology Participants	Goal 2 – 5%	Not Available	600	630	632
Classes Offered by community resources	Goal 3 – 5%	Not Available	50	53	56
Computer Classes	Defined Goal	47	50	55	60
Computer Class Participants	Defined Goal	264	500	605	720
Volunteers	Goal 5 – 50 year 1	Not Available	50	60	70
Volunteer Hours	Goal 5 – 10%	4,681	5,150	5,665	6,230
Available Device Hours per Capita	Defined Goal	6.3	6.4	6.75	7
Staff Training Hours	Goal 5	Not Available	85%	90%	95%
Social Media - Facebook	Goal 4 – 20%	1,100	1,320	1,585	1,901

		APPE	NDIX B		
	Fleming Island	Orange Park	Middleburg	Green Cove	Keystone
	Doesn't Include	Doesn't Include			
Notes	Manager	Manager			
0.0	3 Vacancies	1 Vacancy			
Monday 10am					
11am		9	4		3
Noon	11	9	5 3		3
1pm	11	6	4	4	3
2pm	9	10	4	5	3
3pm	7	10	4	3	4
4pm	6	9	4	3	4
5pm	11	9	4	5	3
6pm	11			4	
7pm	11			4	
Tuesday					
10am	10			4	
11am	11			4	
Noon	6	8	4	3	3
1pm	6	8	4	4	3
2pm	12	8	4	4	1999 A
3pm	11	6	3	3	4
4pm	11	6	4	4	4
5pm	11	10	5	4	5
6pm		8	5		4
7pm		8	4		3
Wednesday					
10am		9	4	4	4
11am		9	5		4
Noon	11	6	3	4	3
1pm	11	5	3	4	3
2pm	12	10	5	4	3
3pm	7		4	3	2
4pm	8	9	4	3	3
5pm	12	9	4	4	3
6pm	12			4	
7pm	12			4	

Thursday					
10am	11				
11am	11			4	
Noon	12			4	
1pm	7	9	4	3	3
2pm	7	9	4	3	3
3pm	13	10	4	5	3
4pm	12	6	3	4	3
5pm	12	/	3	4	3
	11	10	5	4	4
6pm		9	5		4
7pm		9	4		3
Friday					
9am					
	6	6	3	2	3
10am	6	6	3	2	3
11am	6	5	2	2	4
Noon	3	5	2	3	3
1pm	3	6	2	2	3
2pm	6	8	3	2	4
3pm	6	8	3	2	4
1pm	6	6	3	2	3
					3
Saturday					
am					
.0am	8	6	3	3	2
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	4	4	2	2	2
pm	4	5	2	2	3
pm	8	5	2	3	3
pm	8	6	3	3	3
pm	8	6	3	3	3

Appendix C

	Fleming Island	Orange Park	Middleburg	Green Cove	Keystone
Notes	Doesn't Include Manager	Doesn't Include Manager			,
Monday					
10am	6	6	3	3	9
11am	9	9	3	3	
Noon	9	9	3	3	3
1pm	7	7	3	3	3
2pm	7	7	2	2	
3pm	8	8	3	3	3
4pm	8	8	4	4	4
5pm	9	9	4	4	
6pm	9	9	4	4	
7pm	7	7	3	3	3

Tuesday					
10am	5	5	3	3	3
11am	7	7	3	3	3
Noon	7	7	3	3	3
1pm	6	6	3	3	3
2pm	6	6	2	2	2
3pm	6	6	4	4	4
4pm	7	7	3	3	3
5pm	8	8	4	4	4
6pm	7	7	4	4	4
7pm	7	7	3	3	3

Wednesday					
10am	5	5	3	3	3
11am	7	7	3	3	3
Noon	7	7	3	3	3
1pm	6	6	4	4	4
2pm	5	5	3	3	3
3pm	5	5	3	3	3
4pm	5	5	4	4	4
5pm	5	5	4	4	4
6pm	5	5	3	3	3
7pm	4	4	3	3	3

Thursday					
10am	6	6	3	3	2
11am	8	8	3	3	2
Noon	7	7	3	3	3
1pm	6	6	3	3	3
2pm	7	7	3	3	3
3pm	5	5	4	4	<u> </u>
4pm	6	6	3	3	3
5pm	6	6	3	3	3
6pm	6	6	2	2	2
7pm	6	6	2	2	2

Friday					
9am	6	6	3	3	3
10am	6	6	3	3	3
11am	7	7	4	4	<u> </u>
Noon	5	5	4	4	4
1pm	6	6	3	3	3
2pm	5	5	4	4	4
3pm	6	6	3	3	3
4pm	5	5	3	3	3

Saturday			State of the state		
9am	4	4	2	2	2
10am	4	4	3	3	3
11am	4	4	3	3	3
Noon	4	4	3	3	3
1pm	3	3	4	4	4
2pm	5	5	4	4	4
3pm	5	5	4	4	4
4pm	4	4	3	3	3

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CREW: Continuous Review, Evaluation, and Weeding			
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l. You Will Enhance Your Library's Reputation			
. You Will Keep Up With Collection Needs			
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Appendix E

RFID Articles

Library RFID Systems for Identification, Security, and Materials Handling

Abstract

Chapter 1 of Library Technology Reports (vol. 48, no. 5) "RFID in Libraries: A Step toward Interoperability" discusses RFID systems being used by libraries today, which include tags, readers, and software. Libraries place tags in books and other library material to speed materials handling functions such as check-in and check-out and to provide security for the items. This chapter introduces the technology and explains how it is currently used in libraries.

ibrary RFID systems are composed of tags, readers, and middleware software. The systems rely heavily on the integrated library system (ILS), and the middleware is designed to support communication between the reader and the ILS. Tags are placed inside library material, on media cases, or on multipart set bags. The readers are placed at staff workstations and self-check machines and built into security gates. At this time, most tags contain only the barcode number of the item and, in some cases, some additional information that can be used by the security system. The readers read the information on the tag (e.g., the barcode) and pass the information to the ILS.

RFID Tags

RFID tags come in many sizes and shapes and varying degrees of rigidity and flexibility depending on how they'll be used. They can be embedded in cardboard, plastic, wood, textiles, and even human or animal tissue. RFID tags can be found in thermal transfer labels, plastic cards, key fobs, and passports. When embedding

the tags in a material, it is important to ensure that the components of the surrounding material protect the chip and antenna without creating interference during communications. Therefore, tags are manufactured for specific purposes.

Tags can be passive or active. Passive systems rely on the reader to generate the energy that will allow the tag to transmit the data on the chip. Active tags have their own transmitter and a power source (possibly a battery), so they can transmit the information stored on the chip without relying on the reader's power. RFID tags can be low frequency (LF), high frequency (HF), or ultra high frequency (UHF); see table 1.1. NFC (near field communication) is a kind of HF RFID tag.

The tags used in library applications are HF tags. They look like thin paper labels (see figure 1.1). In fact, some libraries imprint their library logo on the tags so they function as property labels as well.

Library book tags are designed to be placed into books. The antenna is tuned so that when the tag is placed inside the book, the book's material (book cover and paper) won't degrade, or detune, the signal. Items designed for CDs and DVDs are also specially tuned to work with the hard plastic that makes up a DVD or CD. Book tags wouldn't work well if used on a CD or DVD, and media tags wouldn't work well on a book because of the detuning effect of the material to which they are affixed.

Most libraries use HF tags for library applications because the read range is shorter and because the standards have thus far specified HF tags. However, the RFID marketplace is changing rapidly, driven largely by the popularity of UHF applications.

RFID Tags	Low Frequency (LF)	High Frequency (HF)	Ultra High Frequency (UHF)
Frequency	125 kHz	13.56 MHz	400 MHz to 1 GHz
Operating Distance	30 cm to 1 m	10 cm to 1 m	Passive: up to 25 m Active: up to 100 m
Characteristics	Short read range. Read range is easier to control. Handle metal and water better than UHF. Can be affected by industrial noise. Slower data transfer rate. Cannot always communicate with multiple tags.	Short read range (especially NFC tags). Read range easier to control than UHF. Not as effective as LF in presence of metal and water, but better than UHF. Unaffected by industrial noise. Can communicate with multiple tags simultaneously.	Long read range. Fast reading of multiple tags. Less tag memory than HF. Poor performance around liquids and metals. Operate in a crowded frequency.
Applications		Library materials management and security, access control, banking cards, contactless payment systems, goods control, security.	Asset tracking, supply chain, logistics, toll booths, real-time locating systems, container security, library material management and security (limited).

Table 1.1Types of RFID tags

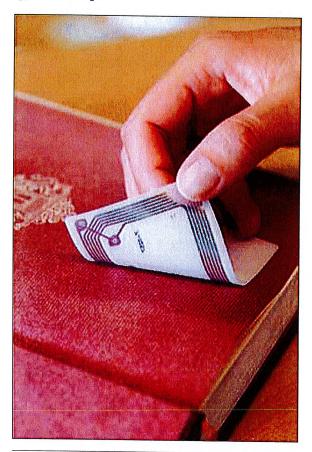


Figure 1.1

48 mm x 80 mm TAGSYS Folio 370-F3 tag. Photo provided courtesy of TAGSYS. See "Folio HF RFID Tags," datasheet, TAGSYS RFID website, 2012, http://tagsysrfid.com/content/download/463/3044/version/3/file/T-M-FolioTags-Datasheet-6Mar2012.pdf.

Book Tags

HF book tags come in two shapes. One is credit card size (figure 1.2) and one is square (figure 1.3). Both use NXP microchips, most often with 1,024 bytes of memory, and operate at 13.56 MHz. The different shapes are the result of the antenna design. The main manufacturers of library RFID tags are TAGSYS and SMARTRAC.¹ But libraries don't buy directly from the manufacturer. Libraries buy the tags from a library RFID vendor.²

Media Tags

The tags used for CDs and DVDs (figure 1.4) also come in two form factors: disk hub tags and full coverage tags. Hub tags fit on the inside ring of the CD or DVD and have not proven to be nearly as effective as the full coverage tags. The full coverage tags cover one side of the CD or DVD. The antenna is much bigger on these tags because it runs around the outside edge of the CD or DVD instead of the inside ring.

Two manufacturers make the full coverage tags: UPM Raflatac was the original manufacturer of the popular Stingray tag. Now that SMARTRAC owns UPM, the Stingray tag is simply known as the CDlabel.³

The other company making the full coverage tags was FCI Smartag, which manufactured the X-Range. This company has now been purchased by the Identive Group.⁴

UHF Tags in Libraries

When libraries first began using RFID, the only viable tag for item-level tracking was an HF tag. This is



Figure 1.7
3M Digital Library Assistant. Photo courtesy of 3M. See
"Digital Library Assistant," 3M website, http://solutions.3m
.com/wps/portal/3M/en_US/3MLibrarySystems/Home/Products/
RFIDCollectionManagement.

of both readers). Also, CDs and DVDs pose challenges for RFID systems because of the metal in some DVDs and because they too can overlap.

Despite these challenges, RFID security is as effective as EM security systems have been. They act as a theft deterrent, not as theft prevention. And unlike EM strips, they don't require additional processing (adding the EM strip) and handling (sensitizing and desensitizing).

RFID security should be used if a library is implementing an RFID system; however, better security shouldn't be the library's primary justification for switching from a barcode/EM system to RFID.

Converting from EM to RFID can be expensive as it may require replacing all the library's existing security gates. Recently, at least one vendor has made a hybrid security gate available. It's not clear how effective they are, however. According to the 2012 Library RFID Survey, the hybrid security gates are getting



Figure 1.8 EnvisionWare LibraryPDA. Photo courtesy of EnvisionWare. See "LibraryPDA," EnvisionWare website, http://envisionware.com/librarypda.

mixed reviews. In the United Kingdom, 50 percent of survey respondents reported they were happy with them, but 38 percent said they performed poorly. In the United States, 100 percent of respondents reported they didn't work very well.¹¹

Mobile Readers

There are two form factors in library mobile readers: wands and handhelds (figures 1.6–1.8). Some of the mobile readers used for inventory are configured with long handles or wands in order to better read the tags on material shelved high and low. Other mobile readers are attached to handheld computers so the devices can be used for weeding, finding lost material, identifying items on the pull list, and shelf reading. These units often allow the staff person to download information to the device (e.g., weed list or lost items list) and have the ability to upload the updated information back to the ILS.

RFID Software

Every manufacturer of library RFID systems provides its own proprietary software to run its RFID equipment. In general, this goes beyond simply a "hardware driver" that allows the equipment to work with an operating system.

Sophisticated RFID software takes advantage of the fact that the data from several tags can be captured at once (unlike the "keyboard wedge" mentioned earlier). Rather than feeding the data to the ILS one keystroke at a time, numerous "calls" can be made to the ILS to get work done. These calls are usually SIP2 calls, meaning the RFID application communicates with the SIP2 server, which in turn communicates with the

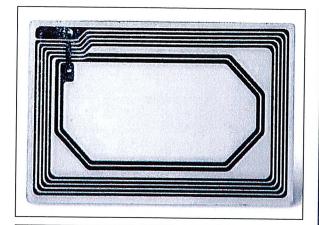


Figure 1.2
3M's ISO RFID tag. Photo courtesy of 3M. See "ISO RFID Tags," 3M website, http://solutions.3m.com/wps/portal/3M/en_US/3MLibrarySystems/Home/Products/RFIDTags.

because the read range of UHF is longer and more unwieldy than HF tags, and because early UHF tags encountered problems around metal and water. However, UHF technology has evolved quite a bit, and many RFID experts assert it is equally effective for item-level tracking. Some argue that it is a better choice than HF because UHF tags are more universal.⁵

However, virtually all US library RFID systems in production are based on HF tags.⁶ There may soon be one exception. At the end of this year, Grand Rapids Public Library expects to go live with its UHF system. Grand Rapids has developed an open source solution for its UHF RFID system for communicating with its ILS (which is Evergreen, also an open source product). It is currently pilot testing and plans to go live with the new system in July 2012.

UHF technology has evolved very fast in the last several years and is now widely adopted for item-level tracking. Between 2003 and now, as other industries were focusing on UHF tags and developing standards and new applications across numerous industries, libraries continued to focus their standards efforts only on HF tags.

In 2006, EPC Gen 2 became the standard for item-level tagging with UHF tags. However, most library efforts to develop a data model and encoding standard have focused on the ISO 18000-3, Mode 1 standard for HF tags instead of the EPC Gen 2 standard for UHF. The exception is in Asia and to some degree in Australia. There are two proposals in the works that address the technical specifications of UHF tags for library use. At least one of them provides an approach that would help with interoperability across UHF systems (not between UHF and HF systems) and would leverage the data elements specified by ISO 28560-1 (for use with HF systems).

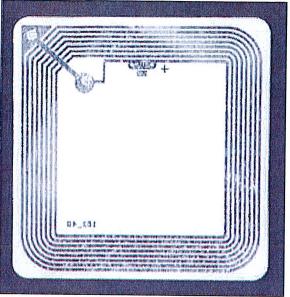


Figure 1.3
RFID Library Solution's square book tag. Image courtesy of RFID Library Solutions. See "RFID Products," RFID Library Solutions website, www.rfidlibrarysolutions.com/#!rfid-products.



Figure 1.4 A full coverage media tag (StingRay) ready to be applied.

Given the pervasiveness of UHF tags for item-level tracking in so many other industries, it isn't entirely clear that the decision to standardize on HF tags in libraries was the right choice. How to explore UHF tags for libraries without disrupting the progress made toward standardization and interoperability remains a conundrum for everyone involved in standards development. It is a question that should be resolved as

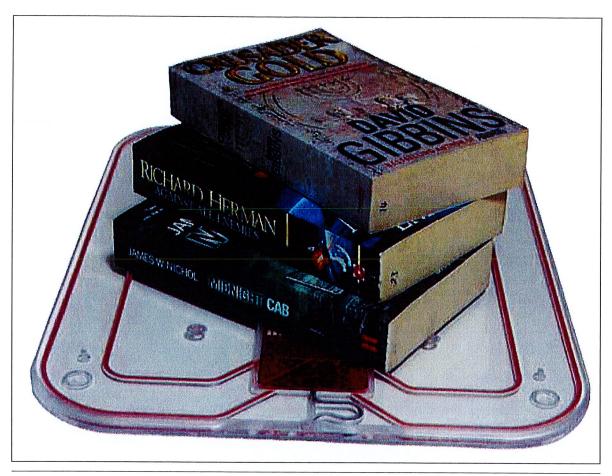


Figure 1.5

Example of an RFID reader that can be placed on top of the counter or underneath. Photo courtesy of Bibliotheca. See "Smartgate 100/200/300," Bibliotheca website, www.bibliotheca.com/1/index.php/gallery?productCode=s_station100.200.300 &productTitle=smartgate%20100/200/300.

soon as possible so that libraries can move forward in unison and not at cross-purposes.

RFID Readers

Implementing RFID generally requires installing an RFID reader in every place where a barcode scanner is installed. This means that all staff workstations, self-check machines, and security gates must be configured with an RFID reader or replaced.

RFID-Enabled Staff Stations

RFID readers for staff stations are flat pads which can be placed on or under counters (figure 1.5). Once the material gets close enough to the reader, the tags are read and the data conveyed to the ILS. A stack of books can be placed in the pad's read range and as the tags are read, data is passed to the ILS.

The RFID readers used at staff workstations require

that software be installed at the workstation to assist with the communication between the reader and the ILS. Sometimes the software is a "keyboard wedge," meaning it simply translates the data read by the device into keyboard data. Other times, the software is more sophisticated and enhances the circulation process. Some library RFID solutions work well with one ILS and less well with another. Therefore, before settling on an RFID solution, it is very important to test the software integration at staff workstations with your specific ILS.

Self-Check Machines

According to the 2012 Library RFID Survey⁷ (an international survey in which 470 people from 278 libraries responded), 98 percent of libraries that have implemented RFID are using it for self-service.⁸ This is because RFID-based self-check is easier for patrons to use because the patron doesn't have to identify the barcode and align the item properly. Patrons can just



Figure 1.6Portable inventory system from Tech-Logic. Photo courtesy of Tech-Logic.
See "CircTRAK," Tech Logic website, www.tech-logic.com/solutions/rfid/inventory-control.asp.

set their books on the counter and the system begins reading them, making check-out very easy.

However, for RFID-based self-check to be widely adopted, patrons have to be able to do all of their check-outs at the self-check machine. If CDs or DVDs require staff intervention to open the case or get the media, or if some category of library material isn't RFID tagged, the percentage of self-service check-outs will be low. According to the 2012 survey, only 35 percent of respondents reported 85 percent or higher self-check use even though their systems were RFID based.⁹

Most self-check machines can be easily upgraded to support RFID.

Security Gates

Security gates are the second most implemented RFID product in libraries, after self-check machines. According to the 2012 survey, 85 percent of libraries that have implemented RFID are using them for security.¹⁰

Security gates used in libraries have traditionally used EM (electromagnetic) systems to detect items that have not been checked out. With an EM-based system, the item must be sensitized (security turned on) or desensitized (security turned off) as items are

checked in and checked out. To turn on the EM system in a book or CD, the item is dragged past a magnet that sensitizes or desensitizes the strip. These sensitizers are bulky pieces of equipment that add a step in the circulation workflow (for both patrons and staff) and take up a lot of space on the countertop—or worse, require a staff person to do the sensitizing at a separate workstation equipped with such a unit.

RFID tags can be used for identification and circulation as well as security. Security is handled by changing one piece of information on the RFID's microchip as the item is checked in and out. It does not require an additional piece of equipment or additional work for the patron and staff.

The effectiveness of RFID versus EM security is roughly equal. Neither is perfect. Although several tags can be read at once, various conditions can result in items going undetected through the RFID security gates. If a person passes through the gates with a large number of picture books, it is more difficult to detect all the tags because the tags may be overlapping. When tags are close together and overlap, they can interfere with one another. Sometimes items can be missed if they are held in just the right position (e.g., the exact center of the gates where they may be just out of range

ILS. Communicating with the SIP2 server is how all self-service check-out transactions are handled whether via barcode or RFID. The difference is in the middleware's ability to read all the tags at once, sort out the information needed to be sent, and sending only that information. The rest of the transaction

RFID security should be used if a library is implementing an RFID system; however, better security shouldn't be the library's primary justification for switching from a barcode/EM system to RFID.

is handled by the ILS and the self-check machine and has nothing to do with RFID specifically.

But not all transactions can be handled by the library's SIP2 server. Some things that can be done with RFID hardware are not supported by SIP2. In this case, it is up to the RFID application to do the work. This applies to tasks such as weeding, inventory, and generating pull lists, and it could apply to many more functions as yet undefined. In these cases, the RFID vendor has written proprietary software that is the vendor's intellectual property. New protocols need to be developed so that RFID vendors can use standardized methods for accessing the ILS and sending data to the ILS beyond the basic circulation functions that are now supported by SIP2 and NCIP2.

RFID and AMH

Many people are under the mistaken impression that a library cannot implement automated check-in or sorting without RFID. In fact, automated materials handling (AMH) systems can function very well in either environment.

One-at-a-Time Check-in Systems

AMH systems that rely on a person feeding in items one at a time can use barcodes or RFID tags. The only difference is that the person inducting material into a barcode-based system must orient the material properly. If the item is placed with the barcode facing down or if the barcode is inside the book, the scanner won't be able to read it. AMH systems can be designed to open book covers or can be equipped with scanners above and below the items so the barcode *can* be read even if a patron inserts a book upside-down. Obviously, the system will cost a bit more if two scanners are needed at the induction points.

The advantage of one-at-a-time check-in systems (whether barcode- or RFID-based) is that each return is verified and the customer can get a receipt.

Book Drop Style Check-in Systems

Some AMH systems behave more like traditional book drops, allowing the patron to dump the books into

a receptacle rather than feeding them in one a time. These systems can also be used with either barcodes or RFID tags.

Whether the items have barcodes or RFID tags, each item must be checked in one at a time eventually. To do this requires that the system move items up a slanted conveyor section at least two feet long. The conveyor is angled such that the library material slides apart and each item ends up separated (singulated) by the time it reaches the scanner or RFID reader. ¹² If the system is barcode-based, it will be necessary to have scanners above and below the items to ensure the barcode can be scanned.

The key advantage to these drop-in types of systems is they are easier for patrons to use when they have a lot of material to return. There are two disadvantages to these systems. One is that patrons can't get a receipt for their returns because the items aren't checked in right away. The other is that this type of sorter takes up more room. Both of these disadvantages are a result of how the items are singulated after being dropped in.

The one type of book return that can be used with RFID, but not barcodes, is the RFID-enabled book drop (without the sorter). The book drop is simply configured with an RFID reader so that items get checked in as they are dropped in. The only advantage of these systems is for the customer who assumes all of the items have been successfully checked in. For staff, there is no advantage because each item will need to be checked in again to determine how it should be handled.

Notes

- 1. SMARTRAC bought two other big players in the market, UPM and KSW. For more information, see "SMARTRAC Further Strengthens Its Trusted Brand," news release, SMARTRAC website, March 1, 2012, www.smartrac-group.com/en/media-relations -latest-press-releases.php?type=pm_home&id=344&year=2012, and "SMARTRAC Completes UPM RFID Transaction," FreshNews.com, April 1, 2012, www.freshnews.com/news/631216/smartrac-completes-upm-rfid-transaction.
- For a listing of vendors providing RFID products and services related to RFID, see "Buyers Guide," *Ameri*can Libraries website, http://americanlibrariesbuyers guide.com/.
- 3. See "CDlabel," datasheet, SMARTRAC Technologies,

- 2009, www.smartrac-group.com/en/download_2/datasheets/SMARTRAC_Datasheet_CD_Label.pdf.
- 4. See "Identive Group Announces Closing of Smartag Acquisition," news release, Identive website, November 22, 2010, www.identive-group.com/en/index .php?option = com_k2&view = item&id = 156:identive -group-announces-closing-of-smartag-acquisition& Itemid = 246.
- J. Uddin, M. B. I. Reaz, M. A. Hassan, A. N. Nordin, M. I. Ibrahimy, and M. A. M. Ali, "UHF RFID Antenna Architectures and Applications," full length research paper, Science Research and Essays 5, no. 10 (May 18, 2010): 1034, www.academicjournals.org/sre/pdf/ pdf2010/18May/Uddin%20et%20al.pdf.
- Carver County (MN) has an RFID system, but it is not in production. It is doing tests in partnership with 3M. See NISO RFID Revision Working Group, *RFID in U.S. Libraries*, Recommended Practice of the National Information Standards Organization, NISO RP-6-2012 (Baltimore, MD: NISO, March 2012), 50, www.niso .org/apps/group_public/download.php/8269/RP-6 -2012_RFID-in_US_Libraries.pdf.
- Mick Fortune has been conducting surveys about library RFID use in the United Kingdom since 2009. In 2011, Alan Butters and I worked with him to make

- the survey applicable to our markets (Australia and North America), and we encouraged libraries in those two markets to respond. Fifty-one US libraries responded, compared to 115 from the United Kingdom and 58 from Australia plus several from 13 other countries. All of the survey responses can be found at Mick Fortune, "Search Results for: 2012 library rfid survey," *RFID—Changing Libraries for Good?* (blog), www.mickfortune.com/Wordpress/?s=2012+library+rfid+survey.
- 8. Mick Fortune, "Using RFID in the Library—Part 3 of the 2012 Survey," *RFID—Changing Libraries for Good?* (blog), March 6, 2012, www.mickfortune.com/Wordpress/?p=747#more-747.
- Mick Fortune, "2012 Library RFID Survey: Self Service," www.libraryrfid.co.uk/useselfservice.html.
- Mick Fortune, "2012 Library RFID Survey—Part 4," RFID—Changing Libraries for Good? (blog), March 8, 2012, www.mickfortune.com/Wordpress/?p=757.
- 11. Mick Fortune, "2012 Library RFID Survey—Part 6," *RFID—Changing Libraries for Good?* (blog), March 19, 2012, www.mickfortune.com/Wordpress/?p=775.
- 12. See the video "UltraSort Patented Item Deshingler" at "UltraSort Systems," Tech Logic website, www.tech-logic.com/solutions/ast/ultrasort.asp.



Create a more human library

"Self-service keeps people moving... and it's the way the world works today."

Looking to increase staff efficiency, Florida's Orange County Library System chose a self-service system based on radio frequency identification (RFID). It's easier to use than competing systems, staff members say, and it represents the future of information technology in libraries.

The Need

Central Florida's fast-growing Orange County takes its name from the acres of orange groves that once covered the landscape. While some groves remain, the county has undergone a dramatic transformation since the 1970s. Agriculture is being replaced by residential developments and tourist destinations such as Walt Disney World. The rapid increase in population, now more than 1 million, has been matched by an increased demand for library services.

The Orange County Library System (OCLS) has responded by building an extensive organization, with 15 locations and 2 million items. Annual circulation has hit 8.5 million items and continues to grow.

The community has enthusiastically supported the library's expansion, but OCLS staff has been mindful about exploiting all opportunities for increasing their efficiency and maintaining a high level of customer satisfaction. An obvious strategy for achieving these goals was the acquisition of equipment that would allow customers to check out items on their own.

"For staff, the process of checking out is rote and repetitive," explained Branch Administrator Sally Fry. "We realized that if we went to a self-service system, the staff would then have the time to work directly with customers on tasks that require human interaction, such as answering research questions and explaining how to use the computers."

Most customers were ready to make the transition, added Branch Administrator Wendy Bost. "Self-service keeps people moving," she said, "and it's the way the world works today."

The Solution

The staff began to explore available technologies in 2001 and eventually decided to acquire a radio frequency identification (RFID) system. "We looked at using a barcode system, but it can be difficult for some people," Bost explained. "We thought that RFID was the future and it gave us the option of additional security."

The OCLS chose the RFID system from 3M, which included a 3M[™] SelfCheck™ System for self-checkout. "We were already a 3M customer," Fry said. "We were using 3M security strips and gates and we knew the company had a good reputation for self-service and security." Staff talked with other vendors but stuck with 3M because, Fry said, "they have a proven track record. Most other RFID vendors don't have 3M's longevity, and its ability to support the system. We saw some things that we liked with other vendors, but we knew 3M would remain a reliable supplier. We were making a long term commitment to this technology, and we knew they were also in it for the long term."

The Result

The OCLS has taken a deliberate approach to implementing RFID, explained Branch Administrator Craig Wilkins. Since 2002, it has opened one new branch with RFID technology in place, and it has converted seven other branches. "At our existing locations, we analyze and weed the collection as we go and we take the time to redesign and rewire the circulation desk. This way, we never have to close a library to make the transition to RFID."

Customers have been uniformly pleased with the system. "One of the first things we learned," Fry said, "is that if you give people a choice, they want self-service." Today, at most of the RFID-equipped OCLS locations, about 90 percent of the items are checked out using the 3M SelfCheck System. "Acceptance has been very, very strong," Fry noted, pointing out that in a recent survey, nearly 90 percent of customers rated the system "satisfactory" or "extremely satisfactory." Comments have been positive and customers are asking the staff to begin converting the branches that don't yet have the 3M™ RFID System.

One benefit of the system is the increased confidentiality that self-checkout provides. Several items can be placed on the SelfCheck System and the check-out is instantaneous. "It's done and there's no one around you," Fry said. No staff member handles the item and observes the subject matter.

Staff members have been just as satisfied as customers, according to Bost. "If we told the staff that we were taking away the SelfCheck System, the majority of them would freak out. They would have a nervous breakdown. The acceptance of the system has been overwhelming."

RFID conversions are planned for the system's remaining branches and OCLS continues to seek out new technology to increase staff efficiency. In September 2007, for example, it installed its first 3M SelfCheck System C-Series, an automated materials handling system to receive and sort returns. Additional installations are expected as funding becomes available.

July 2008

3M Library Systems
3M Center, Building 225-4N-14
St. Paul, MN 55144-1000
1-800-328-0067
www.3M.com/us/library
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APPENDIX F														
		Building N	/lai	ntenan	C	e and In	npr	oveme	nt					
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A/C Units	MB				+		+		17	00,000.00	_	000.00	+	
A/C Units	KSH		1		$^{+}$		+		+-		\$ 60,	000.00	-	77.000
A/C Units	FI		+		$^{+}$		-	75,000.00	+		- 75	222.22	\$	75,000
Roof	GCS		+		+		_		_		\$ 75,	00.00	\$	100,000
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ech Space area	МВ	manger office, add door	\$	10,000.00										
1		Refresh landscpaing and												
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		repaint roof to prevent												
Painting	MB	rusting and refresh look			\$	7,500.00	1							
		Fix front door and	-		٦	7,300.00	-							
Doors	GCS	improve access		7.500.00										
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∕leeting Room	GCS	room	\$	25,000.00								- 1		
ech Space	GCS	Move door and renovate					5	15,000.00						
		Place a canopy over back					1	13,000.00	-					
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