



## Create a more human library.

Helping your patrons learn, explore, discover and grow is what 3M Library Systems is all about. For nearly four decades we have provided an integrated portfolio of solutions to help you create and maintain a library that is warm, friendly and that provides patrons consistent access to a wide variety of materials.

At 3M, we provide a wide range of self-service products and services that combine affordability with superb reliability. More customer privacy. Faster checkouts. Enhanced self service. A high level of security. Improved turnaround time. Decreased labor costs. It could all be yours from the one company you can trust. 3M, the inventors of self-checkout technology for libraries.

**Proven:** 3M developed self-checkout technology for libraries in 1992 and has been dedicated to providing superior products and continuous improvement ever since.

**Style:** With a wide variety of attractive cabinet finishes and countertops, our stylish systems invite customers to give it a try. From style and language options to product and software features, the variety of offerings with our self-service solutions is second to none.

**Reliable:** Rigorously tested, our solutions have helped libraries achieve first-time user success rates of up to 90 percent and to reduce unwanted alarms to 1 in 10,000 when used with 3M™ Tattle-Tape™ Security Systems.

**Performance Guarantee:** To prove we're serious about enhancing self-service, we've made it nearly impossible for you to make the wrong decision. When you buy any 3M™ SelfCheck™ System with a one-year Service Agreement, you have one full year from the date of installation to decide whether you're satisfied with the product's performance. Performance means the product meets published specifications. You risk nothing. Because we want to prove to you that 3M is the right choice\*.

\* For additional requirements contact your 3M Sales Consultant.



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# Self-Service Solutions for Libraries

## A library for the future.

Patrons love their libraries. In most communities, circulation is growing steadily, as are requests for the library to sponsor additional programs—from classes and panel discussions to readings.

Unfortunately, library budgets usually don't keep pace with the community's needs and expectations. Most librarians find that their funding doesn't allow them to do everything they would like. Often, they are expected to do more with less.

That's possible only if the library can become more productive. With intuitive self-service systems from 3M, patrons can easily check out and return their items, desensitize and resensitize security devices and pay fines and fees. By doing so, they give librarians more time to answer reference questions, find materials, and manage the other tasks that patrons expect them to do.



3M™ SelfCheck™ System V-Series with Self-Pay



3M™ SelfCheck™ System R-Series with the 3M™ Integrated Disc Media Unlocker

## The quest for productivity.

Faced with constant demands for gains in productivity, libraries are continually seeking new laborsaving methods and technologies. For many libraries, self-service is an excellent solution.

**Patrons often prefer self-service.** By involving the patron in circulation and security tasks, libraries can improve productivity as well as convenience. Most patrons are happy to check out and return their items and many prefer the convenience and privacy of self-service. They are usually very comfortable with the enabling technologies, such as barcodes and radio frequency identification (RFID), and probably use them everyday in stores, gas stations and elsewhere.

**Librarians like it, too.** Most librarians are equally enthusiastic about self-service, primarily because it gives them more time to spend with patrons. But that's not the only reason: they also recognize that self-service helps improve overall productivity. That means better use of community resources. They also appreciate the useful statistical reports that can be generated by a well-designed self-service system and the reduction in manual tasks (that may diminish the risk of repetitive stress injuries).

Even though the patrons, the librarians and the technologies are ready, implementing a self-service system can still be daunting. Libraries need to be confident that they are investing in a system that is durable, reliable and affordable, from a supplier who stands behind its products with clear, comprehensive guarantees. And they need to be assured that their system can evolve as technology evolves.



3M™ SelfCheck™ System BCS-Series



3M™ Centralized Stats, Status, and Configuration Software™ for 3M™ SelfCheck™ Systems



## The next steps in self-service.

Libraries understand self-service. For decades, patrons have looked up titles in card catalogs. They've roamed among the stacks, pulled down volumes, and thumbed through chapter after chapter searching for information—on their own.

Modern self-service extends this notion to include basic circulation functions, such as checking out items, paying fines and making returns. With 3M components and systems, the transition can be smooth for libraries and virtually effortless for patrons.

## Investing for the long term.

Self-service investments usually produce operational benefits almost immediately. For patrons, checkout can be faster and librarians are more available. For librarians, more time is spent on the tasks they were trained to do—helping patrons find the materials they need—because they are spending less time on manual tasks. And, library directors will have access to an extensive collection of reports on patron use across multiple branches.

Those investments can also generate impressive near-term financial benefits. Within a few years, some systems can pay for themselves. After that, they provide savings that can be applied to maintaining or expanding services and the collection.

But libraries need to look beyond those horizons and find a solution that is:

**Durable:** They need to be sure that the components of their system last longer than just a few years. (RFID tags, for example, should last as long as the item to which they've been affixed; the tag you put on a Dickens novel should last a very long time.)

**Forward-thinking:** Libraries need to know that the system can be updated and that it can evolve with the technology. That means working with a supplier that is at the forefront of technological advances who consistently invests in research and development to understand and respond to the needs of the library community. Only one library supplier fits that description... 3M!