

**3M SelfCheck Systems Help Public Library of Cincinnati
and Hamilton County Reach Record Circulation**

Self-service checkouts let staff handle other patron needs

ST. PAUL, Minn. – May 19, 2009 – While libraries across the country have recently reported significant traffic increases, 3M Library Systems is helping many of them meet the challenges that come with increasing visits and circulation. The company recently installed its 3M SelfCheck Systems at locations of the Public Library of Cincinnati and Hamilton County (PLCHC), which, like many other libraries, has been seeing a record number of visits and increased circulation. More than 15 million items moved through the PLCHC in 2008, but with patrons using the SelfCheck systems, the PLCHC was able to efficiently manage this record volume.

The PLCHC's 2008 circulation represented an increase of more than 750,000 over the previous year. While the library previously did not utilize a self-checkout system, the well-timed installation of SelfCheck systems late in 2007 allowed the PLCHC locations to easily handle the increased volume in 2008. Because patrons were able to use the SelfCheck systems for approximately 90 percent of their transactions, library staff were free to attend to other patron needs, including more than two million reference questions—an increase of 27 percent from the previous year. The total number of library visits for 2008 was recorded at more than 5.6 million.

The PLCHC utilizes two self-service solutions at its Main Branch and 11 of its 40 branches. The 3M SelfCheck System V-Series with Tattle-Tape Security offers an easy-to-use touch screen and step-by-step instructions to help patrons process books, magazines, videos, CDs and DVDs. Its reliable features ensure fast checkout of items simultaneously, allowing users to complete their transactions efficiently and accurately. The 3M SelfCheck BCS-Series, designed to work with barcoded items, also serves the branches with its intuitive interface and flexible capabilities.

“Cincinnati's experience with the SelfCheck systems is an outstanding example of how 3M can help libraries operate more productively,” said Joan Detloff, market development

manager for 3M Library Systems. “While libraries across the country are seeing increased usage, SelfCheck systems make it possible for staff members to maintain their excellent service to patrons.”

For more information about the 3M Library Systems solutions, visit:

<http://www.3M.com/library/us/pr>

About 3M

A recognized leader in research and development, 3M produces thousands of innovative products for dozens of diverse markets. 3M’s core strength is applying its more than 40 distinct technology platforms – often in combination – to a wide array of customer needs. With \$25 billion in sales, 3M employs 76,000 people worldwide and has operations in more than 60 countries. For more information, visit www.3M.com.

About 3M Library Systems

3M Library Systems offers the latest in RFID, self-service, automated materials handling, security and PC management solutions that help create a more human library and a more fulfilling and enjoyable patron experience. 3M also collaborates with libraries to support their technological advancement and ensure their success through numerous industry sponsorships and programs. Visit <http://www.3M.com/library/us/pr>

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