

Wyoming's Largest Public Library Chooses 3M RFID for Expanded Facility

Radio Frequency ID for Circulation Management Will Help Boost Productivity and Accommodate Higher Volume

CHEYENNE, WY, January 4, 2007 – The Laramie County Library in Cheyenne, the largest public library in Wyoming, will install a radio frequency identification (RFID) system from 3M when the library relocates to an expanded facility in the fall of 2007, 3M and library officials jointly announced.

The new technology will boost productivity to accommodate an increase in circulation and other services in the library's new 103,000-square-foot, three-level building, which is under construction and scheduled to open in September, according to County Librarian Lucie P. Osborn. The library currently operates in a single-story facility roughly one-third the size of the new building.

"We've been planning this major expansion for more than 10 years," said Osborn. "It's desperately needed because of our highly successful youth services area, our extensive and growing collection of materials, our improvements in public programming, and our desire to be a technological leader in the community and in libraries. The 3M RFID system will provide automated customer self-service, which we call "express check," and other functional improvements, together with the more sophisticated security solution needed for the larger space and for our growing audio-visual collections."

With the 3M RFID system, everything in the library's collection is affixed with an RFID tag. The tag contains a tiny antenna and a memory chip that stores information about each item's identity and allows accurate identification and tracking. A cordless, handheld scanner reads the tags, enabling library staff to easily locate, inventory, check in and check out materials. Unlike barcode systems, RFID does not require line of sight between the tag and the scanner, resulting in easier, more efficient tracking.

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The 3M RFID system also will allow for seamless integration with an FKI Logistex sortation system for a comprehensive materials handling solution in the new library, Osborn noted.

“We are pleased that the Laramie County Library System has chosen RFID from 3M to provide the functional enhancements that will help make the new library in Cheyenne a success,” said Rory Yanchek, business manager, 3M Library Systems. “This facility joins a growing roster of libraries around the world that are turning to our RFID solutions for greater productivity and security.”

A global leader in library innovation for more than 35 years, 3M Library Systems provides security, productivity and information management solutions that harness technology to enable a more human library, freeing librarians to spend more time doing what they do best – helping people. 3M also partners with libraries to support their technological advancement and ensure their success through numerous industry sponsorships and programs. For more information about the 3M Library Systems solutions, visit <http://www.3M.com/us/library> or call 1-800-253-6845.

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