

Tom Pinkin Sales & Business Development mk Sorting Systems, Inc. IFLA 2011 Satellite Meeting --Buildings & Equipment / IT

Integrating Automation Plans into Facilities Planning – Implications and Synergies

The Goal

- Provide better skills for planning and accommodating present or future automation
- Expand your perspective regarding the inter-relationship between patron self service and streamlined circulation workflow
- Increase the chances of a cost effective and productive solution

Why Automate?

- Accuracy
- Less injury lifting/repetitive motion
- o 24/7 availability
- Compress touches
- Faster turnaround
- Ability to handle volume fluctuation/growth without staff increase

Why self service?

- Patrons already adapted to model
- Privacy
- Faster turnaround
- Adapts to diverse population
- Frees up skilled staff to consult one-on-one
- Can be portable, adapts to shifts

Library Workflow

- Access control/Authentication
- Asset tagging and Identification
- Materials Tracking
- Returns
- ILL/Transit
- Check-out / Check-in
- Sorting
- Technical Services / New materials
- Supply Chain Management

Material Identification

- Barcode
 - Electromagnetic (EM) security
 - RF tag security
- RFID
 - Tag only combined ID/Security
 - EM security combination









Staff Workstations

- Check-in
- Check-out
- Patron Administration
- Material Management (ILS)
- Tagging
- Backroom Processing
- Adapted
- Built In

Security Gates

• Proximity to adjacent equipment

- Min. 2-3' (1 meter) separation, over creates dead zones
- Proximity to complete loop frames
 - Antenna interference
- Proximity to door swing and ADA access
 - Allow clear wheelchair access as well as clear door swing

Security Gates EM RF RFID Hybrid





Material Return

Conventional BookdropRFID Smart Bookdrop



Sorting

- Manual
- Minimal
- Automated
 - Sweep
 - Pop-up
 - Roller Transfer



Dispensing

VendingRoboticMini-load





Transport

Conveyors
Inclines/declines
Elevators
Lifts
Monorail



Storage/Archival

 Automate storage & retrieval system (AS/RS) – long term high density storage of reserve, archival or rare collections



Design Planning

- Time invested up front in planning reaps greater returns in the outcome
- Outcome is equal to or greater than the expectations
- The Library understands all of the determinants

Traffic Considerations

- Mapping material flow
 - Material entering library
 - Movement during workflow process
 - Movement leaving the library
- Mapping patron flow
 - Entering/leaving
 - Drive-by/drop-off

Space Considerations

Structural

• Floor loading

• Interferences/restrictions

Utility access connections

• Power / Data

• Access/Egress

• Proximity

• RFID/RF/EM interferences

Building Considerations

- Structural
- Fire National, local
- ADA access, vision, hearing
- Utilities
- Aesthetics

Installation Considerations

• Delivery Points

• Truck / materials / packaging

• Access

• Floor to floor

• Hallway / entry

• Work areas

Sizing / Configuration

- General Rules
- Self Checks
- Sorting Systems
- Dispensing Systems

Sizing - General Rules

- Analyze material, patron & staff traffic patterns
 - Interior and exterior
 - Transit materials
 - Proximity of self-service to staff
 - Choke points
- Determine people & material volumes
- Allow for serviceability

Self Checks

- Determine amount of self service
- Determine locations
 - Proximity to staff
 - Use and location proximity
- Consideration of patron privacy
 - Proximity & orientation
- Allowances for task circumstances

Self Checks

• Balancing queues

- Centralized location
- Distributed location
- Over/under utilization

• 1 self check per 50-75K circulation average

- Patron staging provisions
 - Check-in & check-out

Self Checks

• Determine type

- Custom built into millwork
- Built into wall
- Free-standing kiosk

 Typical sizing 2'x2' (600 x 600 mm) to 3'x2' (900 x 600 mm) dependent upon counter provisions and accessories

Sorting Systems

- Determine inputs and volumes
 - Place automation closest to greatest input
 - Minimize transport when possible
- Define adjacent space requirements
 - Workroom needs
 - Staging needs
- Meeting fire code requirements
 - Fire suppression
 - Fire restriction

Sorting Systems

- Determine current and future capacity needs
 - Systems will last 10-15+ years
- Approximate system sizing
 - May vary by vendor
 - As many sort points as library can afford or fit
 - Enough inputs to prevent excess wait lines
 - Single side vs. double side sort
 - Widths from 4' to 8' (1200-1800 mm) overall

Sorting Systems

 Visibility to patrons – creating visual identity and patron buy-in, point of interest



Sorting Systems

• Typical sizes by library circulation

- 100 300K 1-5 bins
- 301 500K 5-9 bins
- 501 800K 7-11 bins
- 801K 1MM 9-15 bins

• Depends on collection container

• Bin, Tote, stacking cart



Sorting Systems

- Front end sizing affected by configuration
 - Merges
 - EM or multiple ID requirements
 - Staff return
 - Singulating
- Collector sizing
 - Larger vs. smaller collectors
 - Room for changeover









Dispensing Systems

- Sizing dependent upon use
 - Only dispense
 - Dispense & return
- Sizing dependent upon contents
 - Type/size of lending materials
- Sizing dependent upon staging method
 - Storage container
 - Tray

Dispensing Systems

- Allowance for access
 - Installation
 - Replenishment
 - Service
- Load requirements with dead loads
- Utility access





Design recommendations

Work closely with vendors in sizing system
Look at library's longer term needs
Consider impact on entire workflow