

Session 7, Friday

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Implementing RFID in libraries for automation – experiences from over 20 current installations

Abstract

Radio Frequency Identification Systems (RFID) are increasingly used in libraries for automation of repetitive work such as lending or returning of items. These tasks can now be done by the visitor which leads to self service library. The economic evaluation shows that alone from the self check out process the costs of the necessary elements (tags and readers) are paid off in 3 - 5 years. However, the experiences from more than 20 installations show that there are important changes for the planning of the library building which have to be considered by the architect. The most important changes are in the positioning and size of the counter, the positioning of the self check station in order to lead people away from the counter and the positioning of the book return station in a lobby room for 24h accessibility. These adaptations will increase the benefit of an RFID system in a library significantly.

CV

Marcel Nauer, born in 1953 in Switzerland. He visited Junior High School, specialized in old languages Latin and Greek and studied economics at the University of St.Gallen and finished with an MBA. After two years with Nestlé he moved to Munich in 1980 to take over the family owned publishing house arsEdition in the 4th generation. arsEdition succeed to become a leading and highly innovative book publisher for children books and gift books for adults with a list of almost 200 new titles every year, Marcel Nauer regularly gave lectures about publishing at the Ludwig Maximilian University in Munich.

In September 2000 Marcel Nauer sold the publishing house to a worldwide operating publishing group and moved back to Switzerland with his family. After a sabbatical year during which he visited the University of St.Gallen again he founded Bibliotheca RFID Library Systems AG in Switzerland as well as in the U. S.