

## easyLibrary

### Find books without searching!



With **easyLibrary** the work groups can administer their distributed book stock without centralized location. Thanks to RFID they know anytime the current place, the current availability and the current user of their media.

#### Library service for mart books

##### ❖ Motivation:

- Low budget, but more performance is demanded.
- The current location of these media is mostly badly traceable.
- Employees and work groups mostly dispose of an exclusive stock of media

##### → Our Solution:

- Automatic elevation of location- and availability information for media, by the application of RFID
- Formerly exclusive private stock of media is opened by a virtual library service for an enlarged participant's circle



##### Illustration:

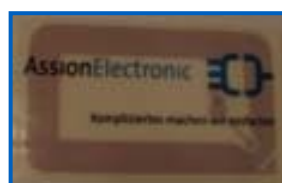
Exemplary presentation of an equipped office with RFID on the Frankfurt Book Fair 2007.

### The Concept:

**easyLibrary** is a library service for work groups that functions without the need for collecting books at a centralized location. In fact, the collection is held by the participants themselves. Book owners decide about making their books available for use by others. So, originally exclusive private collections of books that are common in organizations could be opened up to other would-be readers.

In this case, **easyLibrary** differs from a classical library as follows:

- (1) In the classical sense the term library describes a centralized and organized collection of media which is available for the public or private use. Furthermore the term describes the storage place (library building/special room) for the media collection. For **easyLibrary** these characteristic features do not entirely apply. The media inventory depends basically on the users itself: every owner of a medium decides himself whether he makes this available for others within the scope of the **easyLibrary**. That's why the media collection develops by change. Besides, no special rooms are necessary for the media storage. The media inventory is stored decentralized in single offices so that every single user has a direct access onto the media.
- (2) In classical libraries the planning and the orderliness of the inventory as well as its management are carried out by trained or especially qualified staff members. For **easyLibrary** no additional personnel is necessary. The administration of the media remains in the hands of the users namely without perceptible additional strain.



### How it works:

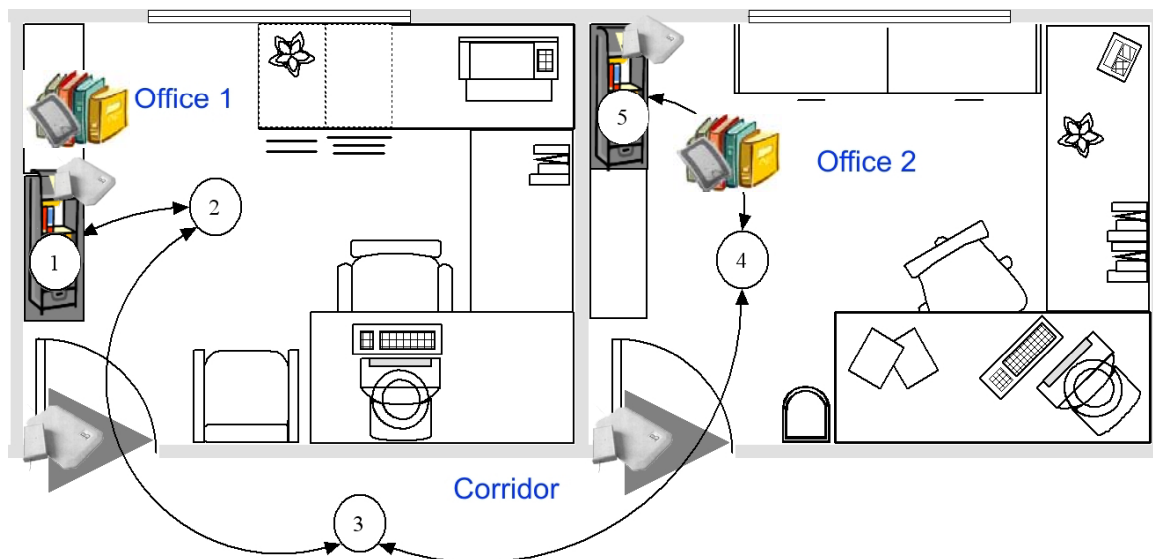
By the use of **easyLibrary** software and the especially equipped bookshelves the members of the organization unit are able to make available their own media for other users. In addition these members are allowed to search for media of other users or to borrow their media. In this case **easyLibrary** is so designed that it is possible at any time to determine the location, the status as well as the borrower of the single media.

The accordingly organizationally necessary processes and workflows for the administration of the library are integrated thanks RFID into the normal work routine of the users to generate no additional expense.

Books labeled with RFID tags are distributed in the participants' office. In the users office special bookshelves are made available for the storage of the media. These bookshelves (for book identification) and the office doors are equipped with RFID readers (for the traceability of the movements).

In order to enable ubiquitously information gathering about the presence of books the detection of a current location of a book must be combined with former "reads" to corresponding events.

As a result of the identification and data capture of the movements, location and status of a medium can be determined:



**Position (1) & (5):**

- Medium is in the office in the bookshelf
- Status: borrowable

**Position (2) & (4):**

- Medium is in the office, but not in the bookshelf
- Status: borrowed by user of the office 1/2

**Position (3):**

- Medium is outside the offices
- Status: borrowed by the recorded user at the office door

**Customer's benefit:**

- ❖ Permanent stocktaking by automatic & electronic data capture of the media
- ❖ Current localization of the media, in spite of decentralized storage of the media inventory
- ❖ Electronic media management
- ❖ Automation of all processes (borrowing and return)
- ❖ Transparent and personal administration

The development of the **easyLibrary** system is a cooperation with University of Cologne, Center for Ambient Business. **easyLibrary** is already integrated and is used currently quite successfully as a pilot in this university.