

Case Study :

Reaseheath College

deployment of self-service and security into a College library



Background

Reaseheath College, based in Cheshire, is the leading landbased College in the UK with an enviable setting amongst 500 acres of farms, parklands, lake, woodland and sports facilities. Reaseheath currently has more than 6,000 students registered at the College and over 400 staff.

The Learning Resource Centre, which includes new IT facilities, was newly built in October 2008 following a capital investment into the Nantwich campus. As part of the build, staff wanted to introduce a Radio Frequency IDentification (RFID) self-service and security solution and consequently went out to tender early in 2008.



The solution

Intelligent were successfully awarded the tender to supply Reaseheath with the solution and installed two smartServe™ self-service kiosks with a shared return bin. The kiosks allow users to independently manage their library account by offering issue, return and renewal functions.

In addition, to enhance their security, a set of four security gates were installed into the library. The smartGates™ work in conjunction with one another to alert staff when non-issued items have been removed from the Centre. Reaseheath also required their stock of 20,000 items to be tagged and programmed.



21st Century Design

The slimline and aesthetically pleasing smartGates™ and modern smartServe™ units were an ideal addition to the design of the library. Reaseheath selected the Intelligent equipment due to its contemporary and timeless design, which complemented the new look.

The team of architects, designers and staff were inspired by the rural setting of the library and by adding bold landscape artwork to shelving units the library was uniquely transformed. Reaseheath have created a practical yet awe inspiring learning resource centre.



The results

The equipment has provided an easy and simple method for student's to manage their library accounts. Student's now have the ability to issue, renew and return items quickly and appreciate the hassle free process. By speeding up the transactions, queuing time has been substantially reduced.

The project at Reaseheath has enabled staff to benefit greatly; the new build has provided staff with an enhanced working environment. Now that students manage their own accounts staff have more time for library management duties and have seen a more personal approach to the services they offer students.

The addition of the smartGates™ not only prevents stock loss but acts as a deterrent against unauthorised removal of items. Staff tagged and programmed their book stock on site, which was a simple task and took place whilst the construction of the centre was carried out. The whole conversion process was completed within 2 weeks by 4 staff.

Having built a positive rapport with Intellident, Reaseheath have since become a key technology partner and continue to promote the benefits of library design alongside Intellident self-service equipment.

"We wanted our new LRC to have a "WOW" factor and the RFID technology has certainly contributed to this together with the overall design. The slimline gates ensure there are no unwelcoming barriers at the entrance and the students instantly took to using the self-service kiosks."

Karen Myatt
Reaseheath College

Project summary

No. of students	6,000+
Items in stock	20,000+
Loans per year	25,000+
Self-service loans	average of 68%
LMS provider	I.S. Oxford (Heritage)



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