



From Symbiosis to Synthesis – Alma and bibliotheca RFID Integration

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The Starting Point

2 bibliotheca smartserve 600 self check stations

fully functional at go-live

2 staff workstations

- bibliotheca smartstation™ shielded hardware
- biblioConversion software
- smartstation manager circ software



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No integration of Alma UI and bibliotheca hardware

- check-in / check-out via Alma "Manage Patron Services"
- security ON/OFF via bibliotheca smartstation manager circ





The Long and Winding Road

- go-live without Alma-RFID-integration
- Suggestion of bibliotheca: use smartstation manager circ software
 - → no integration
 - → only independent setting of security AFI

Many times I've been alone
And many times I've cried
Any way you'll never know
The many ways I've tried
© Paul McCartney

- Alma release May 2016: integration of Alma and RFID
- Integration Alma-RFID works as described in Developers Network!
- July 2016: bibliotheca Germany agrees to sell necessary licenses





The Navigation Aid

As always: RTFM!

https://developers.exlibrisgroup.com/alma/integrations/rfid

Alma OLH: "RFID Support"

Get bibliotheca RFID hardware Install necessary hardware drivers

Configure RFID integration profile in Alma

Install NGINX https://nginx.org/

Install Liber8Connect

Check that ports in NGINX and Liber8Connect software match





The Navigation Aid

Check integration profile:

```
RFID Definitions

Active 
Server URL* http://localhos.:5000/B bliothecaRFIDPadService.svc

RFID Material Type definition

RFID Item Policy definition

Mapping of RFID fields to Alma fields
```

Check nginx.conf – do the ports match?





The Finish Line

RFID integrated in Alma for

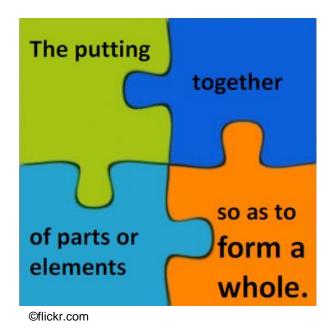
- Repository search
- Persistent search bar

Fulfillment:

- "Manage Patron Services" (check-in and check-out)
- "Return Items"
- "Scan in Items"

Resource Management / Acquisition

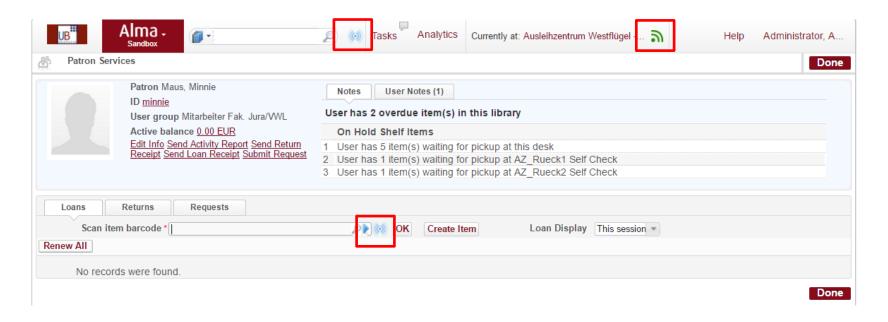
- Physical Item Editor
- Quick Cataloging
- Receive

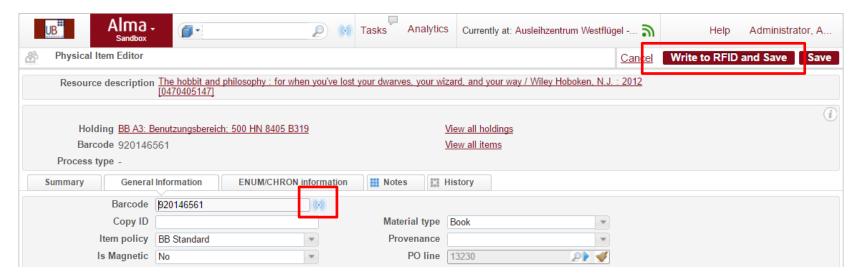




Universitätsbibliothek Mannheim











Issues and Suggestions

Issues

 Cost – one license of Liber8Connect sells at 500,-- Euro



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Suggestions

- Check-in and check-out of several items in bulk should be possible
- Display of RFID buttons should be depending on the presence of installed RFID hardware