



Image Access: Conversion to Bookeye® 4
Bavarian State Library Secures Top Position

State of the Art Technology

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In the middle of regular daily operations, Germany's second largest library successfully managed not only a technical, but also an organizational system upgrade in their scanning services infrastructure. The Bavarian State Library upgraded both the document delivery function in the back office and the self-service stations in the public reading rooms to the latest generation of book scanners, all of which was previously handled by an external service provider; big changes which the users of the systems barely noticed.



Visitors have not used copy for many years. Instead, they have digitized using book scanners manufactured by the Wuppertal based specialists Image Access. Since a few weeks, they have access to the latest generation of the Bookeye® 4 Professional.

In the Ludwigstrasse in Munich, perpendicular to the Ludwig-Maximilians University; the library, fondly nicknamed the „Stabi“ by students, has become a popular meeting place and is ideal for combining analog social networking with digital information gathering. The vending machine in the cozy café not only offers candy bars but also USB sticks, which students later fill with content scanned on the Bookeye® 4 scanner or they bring their own media. Similarly, procedurally seasoned scientists often come from very far away to use the scanning services for their research because the Bavarian State Library (BSB) is not only a lea-

ding library throughout Germany, but is considered in the top league worldwide.

Around 3000 visitors come daily to the six reading rooms to tap these valuable resources and to copy large volumes of pages. To do so, visitors have not used copy for many years. Instead, they have digitized their content using book scanners manufactured by the Wuppertal based specialists Image Access. And since a few weeks, visitors have access to the latest generation and highly performant system, Bookeye® 4 Professional. The use of media-friendly reproduction equipment has saved the BSB large sums on a book restoration costs and it was possible, in part, to lift the former ban on copying valuable or endangered books. „This collection of books“, recalls the project manager and Deputy Head of User Services Dr. Berthold Gillitzer, „characterized by a red marker inside the book, can now be accessed in the reading room. Also, a large part of the bound periodicals collection are available, which were covered by the copying ban before the introduction of Bookeyes.“ Meter readings of 200000 scans per month are not uncommon.

Since the latest system upgrade, the result is temporarily stored only digitally and no longer printed. According to BSB staff, hardly any users really miss that function. However, for the occasional individual's need for a hard copy, this possibility will soon be available again. More important however, are the new features of the scanners such as the interrupt function. This unique solution was initially implemented by request of the BSB. While the user is scanning and for whatever reason the scan job is interrupted, everything the user scanned is saved. Later, the system recognizes the user and any uncompleted jobs linked by a user's copy card and the user can continue the work.

Highly flexible

Because the data can be clearly identified through the user's copy card, the system is highly flexible and still addresses all the requirements of intellectual property rights and copyright regulations.

Dr. Gillitzer: „The data is held up to 24 hours.“ Only successful scans are billed to the user's account and only if the user accepts the result after reviewing the screen and stored data.

„We consider this a valuable part of the service. Otherwise, exhaustive research done over hours could be lost if the customer cannot interrupt a long scan job without his data being saved“, he adds. „Now, highly valuable material can be accessed comfortably in special reading rooms, even for larger reproduction requirements of content from historical volumes.“

This includes the Aventinus specialist reading room for history, „Bavaria“ (Bavarian jewels) and classical studies, but also other specialized rea-

ding rooms for manuscripts, music, maps and pictures as well as the East Reading Room. These reading rooms provide superb working conditions for research and science, especially in connection with historical books which are protected as a valuable cultural asset. Dr. Gillitzer: „What is important for us are high resolution scans to ensure optimal quality.“ Currently, the State Library has over seven Bookeye® 4 Professional stations that will soon be supplemented by two more. In addition, in the back office area, five Bookeye® 4 Professional scanners, which are equipped with additional software for more complex workflows, are used for document delivery. The Bookeye scanners are optimally integrated into the entire BSB system architecture.

This is particularly relevant as the Bavarian State Library is a leader in interlibrary loan and document delivery in Germany, far ahead of other major research libraries in the country. In the scientific document delivery service Subito, the BSB has worked together with the German National Library of Medicine in Cologne for many years and is considered one of the strongest provider libraries.

This last Munich migration was much more radical than it is perceived from the outside, „because we have restructured the entire service and brought it fully into his own house, tasks that were previously handled by an external service“, explains the head of the unit and electronic document delivery services Dr. Gillitzer. „That was a big challenge for all involved. Simply stated, we just flipped a switch and that during normal operation. It worked perfectly without the slightest interruption. Our customers were hardly aware of it“, confirmed Dr. Gillitzer and his team. Dr. Gillitzer claimed, „everything is better than before“. Asked about the recipe for success, Dr. Gillitzer answered frankly „We were a few years ahead in thinking, because we migrated to the new systems very early. Now we are offering a state of the art service.“

Interview with Dr. Berthold Gillitzer

Consistently Looking Toward the Future

BIT Dr. Gillitzer, twelve years ago, your library began as one of the first to switch from photocopiers to Bookeye® book scanners. Has this proven to be a good decision?

Dr. Berthold Gillitzer From the very beginning, the gentle handling of books in the interest of conservation of the physical material was extremely important to us. We not only achieved a significant saving in the cost of repairs to book bindings with the first generation of Bookeye® book scanners. There were and are also significantly less faulty scans.

This means first of all saving paper, but we have seen advantages in virtually all areas: low power consumption, less dust, no toner or other consumables, less noise. The devices were running reliably and stable for years, essentially without any problems. This is of course due to the fact that there are very little mechanics that can fail compared to photocopiers.

BIT The reliability of the hardware was therefore the main reason that you have now decided to introduce the Bookeye® 4?

Dr. Gillitzer Our house was totally open to other systems, which we tested in a corresponding open tender. The crucial factor is the economy of the offering, in the sense of an optimal price / performance ratio. In this context, it is also just as important that the new Bookeye® 4 systems still offer superior quality, for example in the book fold correction or the LED illumination of the source documents, all of which delivered optimal results. The feedback has been extremely positive. The increase in quality is clearly perceived by the users.

We also see a huge leap forward in making the equipment user friendly. And user friendliness is an area

where we have put our strongest focus.

BIT Was training required?

Dr. Gillitzer Scanner operation via the touchscreen corresponds closely to the private usage of our visitors with their own smartphones and tablet computers. This means that they intuitively use the self-service station Bookeyes. On day 1, we had actually agreed to a ramping up time and we wanted to start a little later than usual after a short introduction. But after five minutes, we saw that the first user easily started scanning without needing any help. The operation is self-explanatory.

Nevertheless, we provide our users with a local support team, which has meant a very smooth start and is very welcomed by our customers. We do not need to provide them any training for the new scanner.

BIT What about the demand for paper copies?

Dr. Gillitzer We increasingly notice a change in usage patterns. Users now prefer purely digital copies. This fits well to the consistent focus of the library on digital content and digital services. However, occasionally there is a demand for producing paper copies and therefore, after an initial transitional phase, we will again offer printing as a separate service. But certainly, the future belongs to the scans and digital copies.

BIT Thank you for this interview.

(www.imageaccess.de)



Dr. Berthold Gillitzer, Deputy Head of User Services of the Bavarian State Library: „We have seen advantages in virtually all areas: low power consumption, less dust, no toner or other consumables, less noise.“

»» *Brilliant, Fast
and Efficient Scans.* ««

Peter März Librarian

Bookeye® 4 V1A is suitable for digitization projects that require high quality and maximum productivity even in 24/7 operation.

Originals up to A1+, such as books, magazines, posters, folders or bound documents of all kinds can be digitized by the **Bookeye® 4 V1A** at high speed.



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