



The ENDPAPER

Newsletter of the Library Binding Institute – OCTOBER 2005

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ALCTS 2006 Preconference Workshop(s) on Library Binding

Tentatively scheduled to take place the Friday prior to the 2006 American Library Association (ALA) Annual Conference (June 22 - June 29), the following two half-day library binding preconference workshops will be offered.

Morning Module Advocacy, Budgets, and Contracts: The ABC's of Library Binding for Senior Level Professionals

Description: Aimed at senior level professionals, this module on library binding focuses primarily on the administration of a library binding program through budgets and contracts. Participants will learn about different kinds of binding programs and the associated costs. They will discuss the functions of binding, relevant costs, maximizing the binding budget, and comprehensive and selective binding. They will review the contents of a library binding contract and discuss quality control and problem solving. Finally, they will learn about value added library binding services that can be incorporated into an institution's library binding program.

Afternoon Module What, When and How to Bind: The Decision Making Process and Factors to Consider

Description: Aimed at front line staff, this module on library binding focuses primarily on making appropriate binding decisions.

Participants will learn about the parts of a book, leaf attachment, repairs and how to prepare books to go to the bindery. They will also learn about the bindery process and participate in an interactive exercise with sample materials to be bound.

Workshop speakers include:

-Andrew Hart, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

-Kate Contakos, New York University

-Jean Ann Croft, University of Pittsburgh

-Debra Nolan, Library Binding Institute

-JC. Noyes, Bridgeport National Bindery

-Patricia Palmer Selinger, Virginia Commonwealth University Libraries

LBI members are encouraged to register for the workshop and participate in the discussions. A list of all certified library binder members will be distributed to participants.

The ALA official annual conference web site will be available within a few weeks.

Registration for the conference will open on December 1, and housing will open on January 1. Check the site, www.ala.org, and the December and January issues of *American Libraries Magazine* for details.

LBI Web Site Update

Due to Hurricane Wilma, the newly designed web site will be operational the week of November 7. It was originally scheduled to be up and running by Monday, October 31.

Hurricane Wilma – October 24, 2005

The LBI office was closed the week of October 24 due to the effects and aftermath of Hurricane Wilma. Although power was down for nearly five days, there was no damage to the office or its contents. The office reopened on Monday, October 31.

Technical Director's Report By Werner Rebsamen

German Library Binder invests into Digital Printing

The Schmidkonz library bindery in Bavaria is well known for its technology leadership. After all, they introduced us to the L.O.S. library binding system. They are also responsible for the basic design of the Bookmaster 360 now in daily operation at Bridgeport National Bindery. In addition, they introduced new software solutions like "L-Title" and "CIB" which are similar to ABLE and LARS. In the past, members of LBI, including myself, have visited this innovative library bindery.

As reported in the German *Bindereport Bookbinding* magazine, Schmidkonz is again showing leadership into the future. This 35-employee library binder recently acquired two HP Indigo 5000 digital color printing units to print and bind individual, customized, hardcover bound Photo books, www.fotobuch.de For this operation, Schmidkonz developed specialized equipment and gadgets. With library binding on a decline in Germany, this new Photo book endeavor is expected to pay dividends.

Their business forecast is an increase of 5 million dollars (4 million Euro). To fill "open time" on their digital presses, they offer customized labels and other specialized, on-demand items. With regard to why they did not partner with a digital printer like we have seen in Switzerland at BuBu, Schmidkonz, it was stated that fast turn around times and superior services more or less dictate their endeavors into printing. As you may have noticed, with 35 employees, Schmidkonz is just an "average," medium size library bindery.

Book Scanning at RIT

Back in the year 2000, at RIT, we celebrated the acquisition of the Bernard C. Middleton collection, the world's largest collection of books on bookbinding. The event called "Bookbinding 2000" attracted over 350 participants. Financed by the Frank N. Barnard Foundation, this large collection is now housed at the Cary Rare Book Library at RIT.

We live in a new, digital world and like to share knowledge via the Internet. RIT is again lucky as they received, for a limited time, a Kirtas Book Scanning device. Check out www.kirtas-tech.com The BookScan, a \$100,000 plus scanner, uses a robotic arm to flip pages past a 16-megapixel Canon camera. It is capable of scanning 1,200 pages per hour. Its automatic page turning process is reportedly more forgiving than a human hand – definitely a good thing when working with brittle papers! According to Kirtas information, its SureTurn automatic page-turner combines advanced vacuum and robotic technologies to pick up, separate, and turn pages gently and reliably. A patented V-shape cradle supports books of varying size and thickness. A consisted scan is assured.

Should library binders invest into such a device? Yes, some already have. After all, we are a service-oriented industry that concentrates its endeavors toward libraries. You may consider combining scanning with digital printing as discussed above.

Here is an example of a new business enterprise. Search the web for titles that have a marketing potential or obtain a single, original book from the publisher and scan it into a digital document. Then, like pre-binders, offer libraries that title digitally printed and bound in accordance to the Library Binding Standard. If you offer such a service on the web, you will open up a big market. Soon you may have to expand your bindery! Best of all, there is no inventory necessary as all books are printed and bound on-demand. In other words, you are taking no chances of being stuck with unsold inventory like so many "would be pre-binders" did in the past.

What about copyright? Well, on this topic I have no answer but I believe publishers are more than willing to negotiate a small fee for every book sold.

New RFID "Tag" Applications

During Print05, I searched for information on RFID tags, soon to be a requirement for perhaps all publishers, book manufacturers and library binders. Already, there is a lot of information available on RFID – Global Standards, Electronic Product Codes, Frequency and Power Regulations, HF/UHF/Microwave and Passive Systems. There are items on data management, software integration, secure access, etc. We are interested in books only but the industry as a whole is looking also at smart labels, tickets, tags documents, etc. Then there is the question of how do we read these tags? With hand held readers, proximity readers, mid- or long-range readers, multi-tag readers, local or global positioning? Application environments are again a different topic. As you can see, when we discuss RFID concepts, this is just the beginning of a complex technology which we must learn to master as we did with the introduction of computers. Bielomatic introduced a Transponder Coding and Transfer Machine to print RFID labels in web form. The systems identification is TCT-100/165 www.bielomatik.com. Mekatronics, Inc. will soon introduce the MEKA TAGITM, a machine that will operate

like no other, as it will print and apply RFID tags for individual books. This machine is not only for binders as the main market will be libraries who could have millions of books.

Operation is automatic from the moment a book is placed onto a conveyor and a barcode scanner reads the book identification which is sent to the database. The response is printed on the tag and encoded onto the chip. During transportation through the machine, the height of the book is measured in order to determine the desired position of the tag. The tag is then printed and is affixed onto the endpaper at the user-selected placement. Thereafter, the book passes an RFID antenna where the tag is encoded with the information from the database. The cycle is concluded when the book passes a second antenna where the accuracy of the data is checked. Unless locked by the machine for inaccurate data, the book enters a stacker. This all can be done at a speed of 1,200 books per hour!

Kindly note, this is a much advanced notice of technology in the making. Jack Bendror will make it public in due time. Nevertheless, it never hurts to be informed or knowing what is around the corner.

Personally, I have another suggestion. The application of a label onto the endsheets maybe fine for books already bound and stored at the library. What we library binders and book manufacturers would like to have is a machine that would print and apply a label onto the inside of a cover. After casing-in, that RFID tag is then hidden and most likely is tamper-proof. No doubt, Jack will engineer such a device when the industry is ready for it. See www.mekatronicsinc.com.

New Laminating Foils

During Print05, GBC introduced a new Matte Polypropylene, Scuff-free film. Many clients prefer a matte film for reasons of aesthetics. Since I often act as a referee in disputes, I'm very well aware, that scratches are a major problem. Many trade binders have a disclaimer on their estimating forms, that if a matte-film laminated is not shrink-wrapped, they will not be responsible for unfortunate scratches. The new GBC 8300 Matte Scuff-free film provides a durable, scratch resistant surface that is three times more durable than untreated polypropylene. A matte finish minimizes glare and preserves image color – a designer's choice. It accepts both animal and synthetic based adhesives. Check out www.gbc.com.

Biolam

Biolam is a thermal laminating film enhanced with a patented antimicrobial compound that inhibits the growth and reproduction of bacteria and other microbes. This new film surface reduces and controls the growth of bacteria and mold on laminated documents. It is recommended for book covers and manuals. Go to www.protect-all.com.

LBI Fourth Quarter Invoices to Be Sent This Week

Be on the lookout for your LBI fourth quarter invoice this week. If you have any other outstanding invoices, please be sure to send your payments in as soon as possible.

2006 LBI Spring and Fall Conference Dates - Mark Your Calendars!

2006 Annual Meeting, May 5 – 7
Sheraton Sand Key
Clearwater Beach, Florida

2006 Fall Meeting, Sept. 21 – 24
Grouse Mountain Lodge
Whitefish, Montana

Something to Think About...

The worth of great customer service requires a focus, not on the transaction costs, but on the relationship value... An abundance attitude has magnetic impact on customers. It attracts them because it conveys to the customer the kind of positive unconditional regard that characterizes relationships at their best. – Chip R. Bell, *Customers as Partners: Building Relationships That Last*
