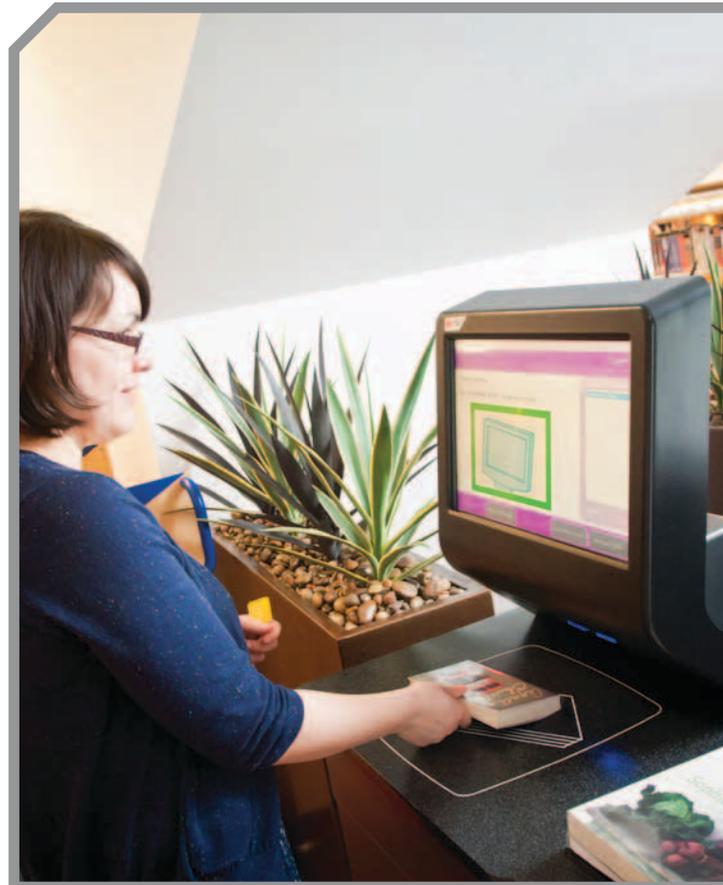


3M works with Southwark Borough Council to pioneer a contemporary solution

As part of a huge redevelopment programme at Canada Water, Southwark Borough Council has built a contemporary £14 million 'Super Library' that holds more than 40,000 books, CDs and films, as well as offering meeting rooms, space for evening classes and WiFi facilities. The new 'Super Library' was built as an innovative, inverted pyramid that allowed the Council to build a large library on a small plot.

Mary King, Applications Manager for Library Systems at Southwark Borough Council comments: "Due to the unusual style of the building we required a choice of self-service units with compact, contemporary designs that could be customised to our unique requirements. We chose to work with 3M as the company could provide us with a full range of RFID solutions, in particular self-service equipment that could be integrated into custom-built, contemporary furniture."

"It was important to us that we made sure the design of the self-service units complemented the rest of the building, so 3M provided us with a prototype design that gave us the opportunity to make small but important modifications to suit our needs. Once the proposed equipment had been tried and tested, a technical engineer from 3M was appointed to oversee the entire installation to ensure that every piece of equipment was installed correctly and worked perfectly."



"The library opened in November 2011 and on that day we had more than 3,500 visitors and issued nearly 2,000 items – 81 per cent of which were processed via the new 3M™ SelfCheck™ systems. The self-service systems, that also incorporate automatic media detaggers for self-service of audio-visual materials, are proving to be extremely popular with both customers and staff, allowing the public quick and easy access to books, CDs and DVDs."

Mary concludes: "Canada Water was designed as a self-service library and 3M technology has played an integral role in delivering this model. The flexible approach provided by 3M has allowed us to meet the site-specific requirements for this unique space and their design work has successfully complemented the library aesthetics."

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