

Appendix 1: Sorter Induction Units and Discharges

Staff Induction:

Staff induction stations are the units that circulation staff use to feed the items into the sorter. This is also where the bar code or RFID tag is read, items are checked in and the sort destination determined. The unit communicates with the library system to check the status of the item and then sorts it according to the rules defined by the Library. The sorting logic can be changed by the Library at any time.

PV Supa Staff Induction Station



Public Induction aka Self checkin

Self Checkin units can be installed inside the library or outside. FKI Logistex calls their outdoor self checkin units 24/7 Library Mates. They can be configured to check in any material deposited in the slot or the Library can require customers to enter their library card number in order to open the chute to begin the process. PV Supa has a very similar product line for self checkin units.

FKI Library Mate



FKI 24/7 Library Mate



PV Supa Self Checkin



Discharges

Sorters can discharge material to tiltable book carts (Ergo Carts or Ergo Stack), totes, trolleys and media bins. The differences have to do with how much material can be deposited in each type of unit and how much work is required to complete the return-to-shelf process.

FKI Logistex Ergo Carts Parked in Sorter



Ergo Carts hold approximately 40 items. They are powered by a battery that is charged by the sorter while the cart is parked. To remove the cart from the sorter, a button is pushed so that no more items are routed into the Ergo Cart (instead they'll go into the exceptions bin until the sort location is re-enabled). Library sorters are generally configured with chutes that feed into the Ergo Carts unless the volume is too high. Since Ergo Carts can only hold 40 items, it may not be possible to use them for discharges. Ergo Carts eliminate the step of removing sorted material from a big trolley or tote and placing it on a book cart for fine sorting and shelving.

PV Supa Ergo-Stack



PV Supa has a nearly identical product to the Ergo Cart called the Ergo Stack.

Trolleys and Return Bins

For situations where a lot of material needs to be sorted, trolleys and bins must be used because they can hold 200 items or more. Libraries that cannot accommodate a large sorter due to space restrictions will use the trolleys instead of Ergo Carts.



Media Bins



Media bins can be used to separate out CDs and DVDs. This helps ensure that the cases are not broken during the sorting process.