Just-in-Time

Delivery workflow between the two BL sites

Andy Appleyard – Head of Operations, North
British Library locations

Boston Spa, Yorkshire

St Pancras, London

£8/metre/annum

24 hrs

www.bl.uk
The St Pancras Site 1997 - Total storage 275 linear km

11 Reading Rooms
1.5m requests pa

£44/metre/annum
Reader “User Journey” (1) – online ordering

Reader selects from BL online catalogue

48 hr delivery. Adds to basket.

Add delivery date and Reading Room.

If in BSP, routes the order to the Warehouse Management System (WMS)

Track request in Order History.
The Boston Spa Site - Total storage 572 linear km
Document Supply Demand

British Library Document Supply Demand

Demand (m)

- 1961
- 1965
- 1970
- 1975
- 1980
- 1985
- 1990
- 1995
- 2000
- 2005
- 2010
- 2015
- 2018

- UK
- Overseas
1st High Density Automated Storage Building (ASB) - 2009
2009 (265 lin km) – Automated, low oxy and high density
Key Facts – The Building

1. Total capacity 262km – 7 Million items in 140,504 double deep container locations.

2. Building separated into 2 compartments by a fire wall.

3. Racking 21m high, 7 aisles of racking each with a crane (2 load handlers to allow 3 containers to be moved at a time).

4. 6 Work Stations for Collection load and Retrieval.

5. Temperature Controlled 16 degrees +/- 1degree and humidity Controlled 52% +/- 5%

6. Low Oxygen environment 15% O² +/- 0.1% (The reduced oxy environment is created by adding nitrogen).
Staff select item from the queue in WMS and retrieve

The robotic crane retrieves the plastic “tote” from 1 of the 2 voids.

The tote is presented to the workstation.

Tote with item required presented to work station.

Tote bar code linked to each item. Operator selects item and bar code wands – item and ticket.
Reader “User Journey” (3) – retrieval – 24 hours

Placed on trolley, end shift moved to Despatch Bay.

Despatched overnight (with items from other areas of the site) to St Pancras London, arrive early morning.

Decanted to relevant Reading Room box, then moved to Loading Dock.

Moved to relevant Reading Room for reader to collect.
2nd High Density Automated Storage Building (NNB) - 2016
Newspapers (750m pages)
Previously stored in London (conventional building) with access via original on-site
2016 (40 lin km) – Automated, low oxy and high density
High Bay: 24m high storage
High Density: fits 89,000 400mm high stacks of newspaper volumes
Reader “User Journey” (4) – Newspapers

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Digital copy?

Y
Click through to digital
BL on-site access free in STP and BSP Reading Rooms

N
Micro film copy?

Y
Order microfilm
Primary access digital surrogate, then microfilm.

N
Print fit for use?

Y
Order physical copy
10 orders per reader, per day. 24 hr delivery from NSB to STP or BSP Reading Room.

N
Routine access not given to ‘Unfit’ material
STOP
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BL Boston Spa – part of the community

School visits

Leeds Digital Festival
The Future – Boston Spa campus masterplan

- New 3rd high density store for BL purposes, possibly with “fresh air” repurposed for 3rd party rental until needed.

- Older buildings repurposed for 3rd party occupancy (and/or temporary non-archival storage).

- Increased physical storage to provide 25 years growth.

- Upgrade to 1970s building and staffing operations centralised. Modernised and improved staff facilities.
Thank you

Any questions?

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