Components

- Automated delivery vehicles connected to a server
- Location tags on each book
- Self-updating online catalog
- 24-7 Lockers

Locating …
Retrieving …
Reshelving …

24-7 online check-out
What is LibStream?

LibStream is a library service that simplifies the process of locating and retrieving books. Its main elements are location-tagging badges (for each book in the library’s collections) and automated retrieval/delivery carts able to receive book requests as they are made.

When library users make borrow requests through the online catalog or app, the carts will look up where those books are and, if they’re on-shelf, retrieve and deliver them.

Carts can be left running overnight to handle off-hours book requests. Instead of delivering to the counter, carts leave books in a specified locker accessible to the user, allowing users to check out books 24-7 even when no workers are on-site.

What else does it afford?

Outside working hours, carts can scan the library for books not in their proper shelf location & move them to where they belong.

Tags for rare or expensive books can be given extra features, allowing their location to be tracked effectively even when they’re far from the library: this can be helpful in the event of loss or theft.

Location-tagging each book can make library reorganization easier. Instead of moving each book & manually updating placement, planners can modify an online map & have the carts sort out the rest.

During working hours, when carts might be a distraction to browsers, LibStream still has its uses. Thanks to location-tagging, users can look up the location of a book and get real time directions to the book, Google Maps style.
Steps (examples)

Library user, remote

1. On the web: visit the online catalog, select the books you want to borrow, and submit a request anytime, anywhere

2. Go to the library whenever it’s most convenient for you to retrieve your book(s). Your book(s) will be waiting for you in a special locker outside the building accessible all times of the day

3. When you reach the lockers, enter your passcode. (This may be a one-time passcode; it can also be a reusable password you’ve set previously). A door to the locker containing your books will open. Fetch your books; your check-out will be automatically recorded and reflected in the catalog status. You are now good to go!

Library user, on-site

1. Visit the online/app catalog and look up the book you want

2. On the book’s page, click for directions or for a live map with the book’s current location

3. If using the app, users can have directions to their books read to them GPS-style
LibStream offers users a satisfying sense of ease, simplicity and allows them to feel a sense of delight and relief at the amount of effort they’re saved. Users can better focus on their important tasks—tasks more central to flourishing—instead of being bogged down by the drudgery of searching for the books themselves.