

Book distributors, or the ubiquitous library

The company PIK Inc. introduces two models of distributors

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For nearly a week, the library world have expounded and reflected on ways to adapt their business practices to companies and subjects movements. Book distributors, through their fun and practical aspects, swarmed in American bookstores. But the company PIK Inc. provides libraries for use even more relevant.

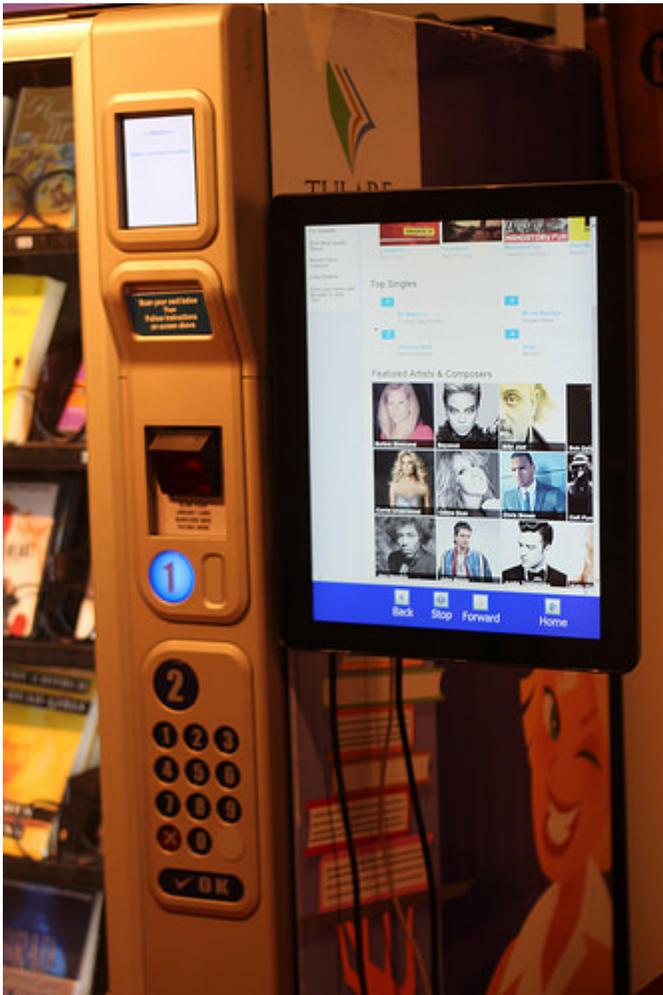


The Lending Library PIK Inc (ActuaLitté, CC BY 2.0)

It is a fact now known: the observed reading in Western countries decline is not due to a lack of love, but rather a more sustained pace of life, as well as an increase in leisure "competitors", which make it more difficult access to books. In this context, the Lending Library PIK Inc. has strong assets.

The machine, made by the company president Fred E. Goodman at the World Congress of IFLA librarians, has the silhouette of a distributor of the most common. " *Inside, a library can store between 350 and 500 pounds, according to the sizes and thicknesses of books* , "says Goodman. The Lending Library welcomes paper books but also DVDs, video games and audio books.

" *Groceries, supermarkets, railway stations, bus stations, recreation centers, retirement homes, schools ... all public places as libraries want to achieve is possible. Then the books are chosen by libraries as the demographics of the selected place.* "To remove a book, it is of course necessary to be registered in the user library: a scan of the card reader, or RFID identification , allows its choice with the input of a number.



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A new model for Lending Library has recently emerged, perhaps a bit more fragile: it hosts a digital tablet that allows the loan and downloading books and music in digital format on a similar physical principle works. The tablet can also be installed on the shelves of libraries, allowing, “performing common tasks such as booking a title, or payment of a fine. The aim in all cases is to improve traffic flow in the institutions,” explains Fred E. Goodman.

The network used for the loan of digital titles is the library, whether OverDrive, 3M or another competitor. The machines are connected to the ILS (Integrated Library System, the French equivalent ILS) from the library, and automatically count down the debt of the user. The advantage of the machine is that it forces the user to then come to the facility to make the book. However, PIK Inc. is currently working on a system of integrated return, made more difficult because of the varying sizes of documents.

However, a solution has already been found in some places, or PIK Inc. has installed lockers for librarians to drop the pounds reserved remote users. The latter will only have to enter the last four digits of their library card to withdraw their orders directly into the bin. Book Return a column can deposit books in return statements regularly by librarians.



The manufacturer PIK Inc (PIK for Public Information Kiosk) also offers Media Box, which deliver this time the DVD library. Everything is as the rental machines of yesteryear, with the possibility of making its DVD directly to the machine, as well as bookings remotely from home.

The machines are sold to lending institutions, with all inclusive for one year, before payment of expenses for the software solution and maintenance in subsequent years warranty. Currently, there are a hundred Lending Library, and 30-40 Media Box in the United States. Current and Internet connection are required to make the beast, which allows librarians to view statistics borrowing and reservation function.



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