

Support Services Report to the Mead Public Library Board of Trustees  
Sept. 22, 2022

MONARCH RFID PROJECT: Cheryl and Chase are wrapping up their roles as project managers in the Monarch Library System RFID Implementation Project. This project, funded by a 2021 ARPA Grant, was aimed at implementing RFID technologies at additional Monarch libraries in order to increase efficiencies and patron privacy across all participating libraries. As project managers, Cheryl and Chase were responsible for:

- Defining the scope of the project and ensuring that all member libraries had the information that they needed to make informed decisions,
- creating an implementation plan and timeline,
- coordinating training for all participating Monarch libraries,
- ensuring all implementation equipment and materials were purchased and accounted for,
- visiting participating libraries in order to make hardware recommendations, install software, and provide individualized implementation reports and recommendations,
- coordinating the distribution of RFID tags to participating libraries and those libraries who have agreed to tag other member libraries' items as they pass through to fill holds,
- Assisting Monarch in coordinating the movement of implementation equipment between libraries,
- providing RFID tag bulk purchase quotes from multiple vendors to Monarch System

Mead will see increased efficiencies with its automated materials handling machine (AMH) as more items from member libraries are tagged as untagged items must be checked in manually by scanning barcodes.

[VEGA DISCOVER](#), PROGRAM & PROMOTE: The Monarch Directors' Council, with the support of the Monarch Circulation and ILS committees, voted to pursue the early adoption of Innovative's new discover layer, [Vega Discover](#), as well as the Program & Promote modules. As early adopters, the Monarch Library System will help move the products in a direction that will benefit our consortia and its users, and member libraries will benefit from an up-front discount. Monarch will begin implementation during the first quarter of 2023.

- [Vega Discover](#): a discovery layer that will provide a sleek alternative to the current online catalog. The discovery layer will make it easier to discover alternate formats of titles (large print, e-book, audiobook, etc.) by rolling them up into one search result (a), and will provide tools (b) such as "read-a-likes," reading levels, series information, and title "showcases" for discovering additional items of interest. Vega will also enable libraries to more fully integrate their e-content (Hoopla, Overdrive, etc.) into search results. You can see Vega Discover in action by visiting the online catalogs of [St. Louis County](#) and [Mason Public](#) libraries.

