

What is Alto?

Alto is the UK's market leading LMS that supports all aspects of a modern library services. One quarter of UK public and academic libraries use Alto.

How will Alto benefit my customers?

- Intuitive library services are available through a range of convenient communication channels (phone, email, postal and SMS notifications)
- Powerful item request and routing tools means libraries can efficiently fulfil customer needs to keep stock fresh and exciting
- Extended methods of borrowing (including mobile and self-service solutions) to suit changing customers needs
- School, prison and mobile solutions extend the reach of library services into the community

How will Alto benefit my library?

- Harnesses circulation, acquisitions, cataloguing and interloan workflows into a single system
- Integrated EDI services vastly reduces the cost of procurement
- Full support for ISBN-13, with MARC 21 bibliographic and authority editing
- Powerful configuration tool simplifies the customisation of your system's LMS rules and settings
- Circulation tools ensure your stock works harder and reservations are satisfied quicker

How can Alto lower the cost of procuring stock?

Alto makes use of Gateway, a procurement platform that removes all of the complexity of EDI and networking standards. Gateway streamlines quotes, orders, acknowledgment and invoicing through EDI transmission of order data between library and supplier.

How much could I save?

Over 90 libraries (trading with over 40 suppliers) currently benefit from fund and order management tools to deliver fast and effective procurement. Leeds library were able to redirect £45K to other service areas by reviewing their stock management process which included the introduction of Gateway.

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How can Alto streamline our cataloguing process?

Alto accesses [Base](#) (our central catalogue of over 29 million records) to deliver high quality catalogue records into your LMS - synchronised with the delivery of stock from your suppliers. Shelf-ready items are delivered directly to your home site, eliminating the delay between stock receipt and processing.

Does Alto provide support for ISBN-13 and MARC 21 standards?

Yes. Alto provides full support for full ISBN-13 records and provides intuitive MARC 21 bibliographic and authority editing. Alto also gives you greater multi-cultural reach as it supports the full Unicode character set in bibliographic records, so you can present diverse materials (including Arabic, Hebrew and Chinese) in their native script.

What borrower services does Alto support?

Alto delivers standard postal and email notifications, but can also channel reservation, recall or overdue notices to both home and mobile phones, using audio or text (SMS) notifications. Our telephony options equip your library to deal with high volumes of self-service transactions day or night.

Does Capita provide self-service solutions?

Yes. Bridge, our self-service solution, delivers connectivity to the most extensive range of SIP2-compliant self-service devices on the market.

How can Alto help my library stock work harder ?

Alto provides item requesting and routing tools that alert branch libraries to reserved on-shelf stock required by other sites. Sites can monitor the requests they have with other branches, process the requests they have received, and fulfil (or forward) requests to other branches.

[-] **How can Alto satisfy reservations more quickly?**

Alto's stock rotation facilities automatically route stock between a sequence of sites, ensuring materials are optimised as they're shared between branches. In addition, the integrated ILL module provides secure electronic delivery of interloan requests in all formats (including British Library Secure Electronic Delivery).

[-] **How can Alto serve separate communities within a single LMS?**

Alto's limited access facilities prevent sensitive information from being viewed outside a defined site - ideal for prison libraries. For loans to schools and colleges, Alto contains integrated features for creating temporary collections of stock that can be issued in a single transaction to a tutor or institution.

[-] **Does Alto provide mobile facilities?**

Yes. Alto integrates with [Mobile](#) to deliver branch functionality to remote and housebound users. And since Mobile is a fully fledged offline solution, the quality of service is not dependent on sporadic wireless connectivity or costly online access.

[-] **Does Alto support income generation strategies?**

Yes. Our payment handling module, Income Manager, provides all the facilities of a till to deliver flexible payment handling, daily banking/accounting tools, and powerful management information reporting. Payment data is accurate, traceable, and automated, freeing library staff from time-consuming banking and accounting tasks.

[-] **How much does Alto cost?**

For pricing information, please contact libraries-sales@capita.co.uk.

[-] **How do I find out more about Alto?**

For more information about Alto, contact us directly at libraries-sales@capita.co.uk. Alternatively, you can download the Alto Product Brief from the main webpage.