Tracking our shipping with OBILLSK

What is OBILLSK?

Developed by Texas Tech University Libraries, OBILLSK Shipment Tracking system provides a single web-based portal for inputting, tracking and assessing shipments regardless of shipment method. NYU uses OBILLSK to track shipments between NYU locations, including five libraries in New York City and two global sites (Abu Dhabi and Shanghai), as well shipments to resource sharing partners.

OBILLSK in a Consortium

All five NYU locations in New York City have unique OBILLSK logins. Each login allows tracking all packages arriving to or being sent from that location. Since most package originate from Bobst Library, Bobst has a "master login" which allows tracking all items shipped at any location.

World map of all NYU locations

OBILLSK Workflow

Step 1: Scan it!
➔ Select Courier.
➔ Enter shipping location: OCLC symbol or consortial ID.
➔ Scan tracking number from shipper. We create a unique tracking number for campus mail.
➔ Scan barcodes of all items in box.

Step 2: Track It!

Find out status anytime by item barcode or tracking number.

Results: One year with OBILLSK

✓ **Reduced complexity. One interface for tracking all shipments.** NYU uses five different shipping services, depending on location, to ship to two global campuses (Abu Dhabi and Shanghai), five libraries in New York City, and all resource sharing partners.

✓ **Saves time.** Replaced manual google-sheets-based workflow. Reduced emails between locations about status of shipments.

✓ **Saved money.** Transformed campus mail into trackable delivery service, allowing New York City locations to switch from membership-fee based bulk courier to free Campus Mail service.

✓ **Better service.** Each NYU location can answer user questions in real time and follow up on delayed packages if necessary.

Dashboard view of shipping statistics in OBILLSK.

View of NYU's worldwide shipping in OBILLSK.   * Consortial identifiers

Future: Data counts

✓ Potential to track delivery at item level (cost, subject area, etc).
✓ Track turnaround times and follow up wayward shipments quickly.
✓ Contribute to decision making about floating collections, demand driven acquisition, etc.
✓ Implement OBILLSK tracking for all NYU Libraries shipments. Currently, used only for tracking shipping within New York City, to resource sharing partners, and shipments from New York City to Abu Dhabi and Shanghai.

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