DC Public Library installs ESPRESSO BOOK MACHINE®

August 5, 2013 (NEW YORK, NY) – The District of Columbia Public Library has installed an Espresso Book Machine (EBM) in its Digital Commons, an 11,000 square-foot place to connect, collaborate and co-work using technology for free. The EBM is a cutting-edge publishing technology that offers patrons instant access to more than seven million titles printed in any language, and allows local authors, organizations and entrepreneurs to self-publish their work on-site.

“Digital Commons is a place where the District's growing community of entrepreneurs, developers, designers, students and educators can create using state-of-the-art software and equipment for free,” said Ginnie Cooper, chief librarian of the District of Columbia. “As technology continues to expand how people seek employment, work and create, we are glad to be able to offer them the opportunity to print or create a great book.”

Dane Neller, CEO of On Demand Books, said, “The library's new Digital Commons shows the power of technology to make libraries a place where content is created.” Mr. Neller went on to say, “DC is just one of a growing number of libraries looking to the EBM as a way of offering self-publishing services to help its patrons find or create great books.”
The EBM is the only digital-to-print at retail solution on the market. Within minutes, the EBM can produce a bookstore quality paperback with color cover, in any standard trim size, at point of sale. The content is fed to the machine via EspressNet, On Demand Books’ growing digital network of titles. These titles are available through partnerships with Google, Lightning Source, HarperCollins, Hachette, Penguin, Macmillan, McGraw Hill, and others, and includes content from publishers like Random House, W.W. Norton, and Simon & Schuster.

Like iTunes for books, EspressNet retrieves, encrypts, transmits and catalogues books from a multitude of English and foreign language content providers (including public domain, in copyright, and self-published). Library patrons can also use the EBM to print their own work, whether they have a private project or want to self-publish their book. They can print as many or as few copies as they need at any given time, and can even offer their books for sale through the EspressNet database and make them available at EBM locations around the world. In this way, the EBM technology offers libraries the opportunity to become community self-publishing centers, providing a new distribution platform for self-published authors. The EBM also improves efficiency and sustainability by eliminating shipping, returns, and the pulping of unwanted books.

ABOUT DC Public Library
Founded in 1896, the District of Columbia Public Library has 26 locations including the Martin Luther King Jr Memorial Central Library and more than 300,000 card holders. The library offers books, programs, technology and services to children, teens and adults that promote the joy of reading and lifelong learning and discovery.

About On Demand Books, LLC
On Demand Books was cofounded in 2003 by Jason Epstein, former Editorial Director of Random House; Dane Neller, former CEO of Dean & DeLuca; and Thor Sigvaldason, former technology consultant at PricewaterhouseCoopers. Espresso Book Machines have been placed in bookstores, libraries, universities, and other locations in the USA, Canada, the UK, the Middle East, Asia, Australia, South Africa and the Caribbean. In September 2010, On Demand Books and Xerox announced a partnership whereby Xerox will service the Espresso Book Machine globally. Made in the USA, Espresso Book Machines are environmentally friendly green machines. For more information go to www.ondemandbooks.com.
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