

The MOBIUS delivery system uses a label maker for bag labels that was developed and is maintained by the MOBIUS Office. The MOBIUS libraries have historically added barcodes to the bags for tracking purposes. However, the MOBIUS courier, 1st Choice, has previously been unable to implement a successful tracking system.

1st Choice has informed the MOBIUS office that it can now track the MOBIUS bags using a label maker developed by a 3rd party vendor that prints barcodes in real time that are tied to the shipping transaction, i.e., bag x from library y to library z. Bags will be tracked as they make their way through 1st Choice's network.

The primary disadvantage to using 1st Choice's label maker is that labels cannot be pre-printed, since the printed barcode is specific to the shipping transaction. Libraries must weigh the relative inconvenience with the desire to track their materials. Bags sent using the MOBIUS label-maker will not be tracked.

MOBIUS Label Maker

Accessed from the MOBIUS website: <http://mobiusconsortium.org/node/4171/>

MOBIUS and MALA libraries are listed. Most MOBIUS and MALA bags have barcodes on them, but they are not scanned by 1st Choice. Drivers carry a scanner that is used for delivery signatures to signify a completed stop.

Some MOBIUS libraries recorded the barcode numbers for use as a de facto tracking system. There is no standard for how this kind of tracking is done and the completeness and accuracy depends on the method used. A 2011 survey of the different methods is available here:

<http://mobiusconsortium.org/file/8585/download/11434>

1st Choice does not track MOBIUS bags that use the MOBIUS label maker

Many libraries, especially those with a high volume of delivery shipments, pre-print their labels and keep them on file for a speedier work flow.

1st Choice Label Maker

The 1st Choice label maker, named Agent Y, is accessed from the 1st Choice web site. Agent Y may be used directly on the web site or downloaded as a client to the desktop.

Labels produced by Agent Y contain barcodes that are bag-specific. Users will be able to track bags as they make their way through the 1st Choice distribution network and on to their destination. Agent Y not only creates shipping labels but also lets 1st Choice know that a shipment is pending for a member library.

The primary disadvantage of using 1st Choice's system is that libraries will not be able to pre-print labels, as each label is specific to the bag on which it is used. Libraries will have to balance competing needs of convenience and tracking and make decisions accordingly.

To try out Agent Y:

1. Open a browser and navigate to <http://1stchoicecourier.com/webapps.asp>
2. On the left side of the screen, under the 2nd header (Next-Day Services Agent Y), click on "Click here to order and track next-day deliveries"
3. Enter the following information & click on Login
 - a. Email address: test@1stchoicecourier.com
 - b. Password: test
4. On the right hand side of the screen, click on My New Distribution Orders
5. Click on Add Order
6. Under Company Name, begin typing the name of the destination library. Agent Y will display a list of matching entries. Select the correct destination. Agent Y will automatically fill in the library address.
7. Fill in any additional information (ATTN person, phone #, special instructions) in the appropriate field
8. Enter "MOBIUS Bag" in the Description field of the 1st item
9. Click Create order and print label (depending on your browser, you may need to allow a pop-up)
10. Agent Y should display a label for printing that includes a barcode specific to the shipment. The printed barcode will need to be cut out and inserted in the display window of the MOBIUS bag.

From: 1st Choice Test Account
4500 Goodfellow
St Louis, MO
314-895-8852

1st Choice Courier and Distribution,

Ship To:
University Of Mo
2800 Maguire Blvd
Columbia, MO 65211
Attn: Joe Mobius

Piece 1 of 1
Description: 1 MOBIUS Bag



Do not enter the bag contents as individual items in the form, as Agent Y will produce separate labels for each item entered. All labels created from the test account will show the same "From" address. Libraries that choose to use the Agent Y label make will receive a library login.

Good Morning:

The MAAC meeting is scheduled for October 16th at 10:00AM. This will be online and will be done with GoToMeeting. Please use the following link to register:

<https://www1.gotomeeting.com/register/668993184>

Title: MAAC Meeting 10/16

Date: Tuesday, October 16, 2012

Time: 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM CDT

System Requirements

PC-based attendees

Required: Windows® 7, Vista, XP or 2003 Server

Mac®-based attendees

Required: Mac OS® X 10.5 or newer

Mobile attendees

Required: iPhone®, iPad®, Android™ phone or Android tablet

Once you register a confirmation page will appear with the URL to go to. Please note the URL is unique for each person registering. When you attend the meeting you have the option to listen either with headphones as was done by Adobe Connect or by calling a number. The phone number is also listed in the confirmation message. Below is a link that shows the audio setup:

https://www1.gotomeeting.com/default/help/g2w/g2w_user_help.htm#Webinar_Presentation/Audio_Best_Practices.htm

Please let me know if you have any questions or need more information. I'll also post this e-mail on the MAAC page for the meeting.

Scott Peterson
Systems Librarian
HDI Certified Support Center Analyst
Mobius Consortium Office
111 E. Broadway, Suite 220
Columbia, MO 65203
E-mail: scott@mobiusconsortium.org
(573) 234-6196
Toll free (877) 366-2487
<http://mobiusconsortium.org>