

POOLEY & OLIVER LLP

CHALLENGES

- Constant strain of document analysis and review on legal resources
- Lack of time for higher-value work prior to tight court-appointed deadlines
- Inability to enforce a standard set of classification criteria across multiple reviewers
- Duplicative efforts and redundant e-discovery costs

SOLUTION

- Clearwell E-Discovery Platform for document processing, analysis, and review

BENEFITS

- Lowered document analysis costs for clients by 82 percent
- Faster, more informed, and highly accurate early case assessments
- Increased number of cases handled over same period of time
- Strengthened competitive edge across all areas of litigation

“Clearwell already paid for itself in terms of the efficiencies we’ve gained, and the enthusiasm we’ve seen from clients. We’ve never seen anything as powerful or comprehensive as Clearwell, and can’t imagine a more accurate or cost-efficient method of document processing, analysis, and review.”

Scott Oliver, Partner

POOLEY & OLIVER, LLP

Clearwell E-Discovery Platform Reduces Client E-Discovery Costs by 82 Percent

OVERVIEW

Pooley & Oliver, LLP, is a Silicon Valley law firm specializing in the litigation and trial of patent, trade secret, copyright, and technology-related commercial disputes. Like many firms, more and more of its cases involved the submission of electronically stored information (ESI) as material evidence, a phenomenon that law firms and corporate enterprises have struggled to manage.

BUSINESS CHALLENGES

The pervasive and persistent entry of electronic evidence in cases was putting a constant strain on Pooley & Oliver’s resources. For a moderate sized investigation, a team of four to five associates, earning approximately \$300/hour each, would spend several 12-hour days reviewing and analyzing boxes of printed documents.

“Our staff was constantly bogged down with reviewing emails, and was always working up against tight court-appointed deadlines,” Oliver said. “It was a stressful situation for us and for our clients because of the volume of information we had to sift through, and the uncertainty of what the evidence would tell us until the very end.”

Oliver also knew that until the process could be automated, review and analysis of ESI would always remain inefficient and subjective. Multiple legal professionals would often review the same document from different custodians, resulting

in duplicative efforts and redundant costs. Furthermore, it was impossible to link relevant emails together into a discussion thread and build a chart of who knew what and when.

It was also impossible to enforce a standard set of criteria against an individual’s decision-making. An associate with a broad reading of the case might classify a document as responsive, while another associate with a narrower interpretation might consider it non-responsive—eliminating a potentially relevant message from the collection of evidence.

The entire process was fraught with inefficiency, and gave the firm little time for higher-value work and limited its ability to take on new clients. “We weren’t satisfied with the industry-accepted way of conducting manual document analysis, and knew there had to be a better way,” Oliver said.

“Clearwell is the best solution for analyzing large volumes of documents without tying up our legal team for weeks or months, spending millions of dollars, or overlooking key evidence in a case.”

Scott Oliver, Partner

CLEARWELL SOLUTION

A client agreed to subsidize the purchase of Clearwell, and commissioned Oliver to implement the technology in its e-discovery process. “We would still be manually reviewing all of the evidence in this case if we didn’t have Clearwell,” Oliver said.

Since installing Clearwell, the intelligent e-discovery capabilities have delivered tremendous value. Clearwell automatically eliminates duplicates, reducing the number of documents to be analyzed by 25 to 40 percent. In one instance, Clearwell cut the number of documents from 150,000 to 105,000 documents simply by eliminating duplicates.

Clearwell can also link relevant email messages together into discussion threads. Legal professionals can easily follow an email thread and pinpoint exactly who was involved in a particular discussion, what they knew, and when, further speeding the review and analysis process.

Clearwell’s sophisticated search capabilities have automated the process of identifying privileged and “hot docs”, ensuring that all relevant documents have been identified and that key evidence is not missing.

Finally, Clearwell’s tagging and standards-based export features make it seamless to import the relevant documents into a litigation support tool for the production of admissible evidence for the opposing counsel, making the production process easier and cost effective.

BUSINESS BENEFITS

“Clearwell already paid for itself in terms of the efficiencies we’ve gained, and the enthusiasm we’ve seen from clients,” Oliver said. “We’ve never seen anything as powerful or comprehensive as Clearwell, and can’t imagine a more accurate or cost-efficient method of document processing, analysis, and review.”

Unlike keyword search tools that simply index documents, Clearwell analyzes the unique properties of

documents and emails, combines it with organizational data, and applies patent-pending linguistic and statistical analysis algorithms to streamline the e-discovery process.

“Clearwell is the best solution for analyzing large volumes of email without tying up our legal team for weeks or months, spending millions of dollars, or overlooking key evidence in a case,” Oliver said. “Clearwell lowered costs by 82 percent, providing significant savings for our clients. It also allows us to free up resources to better serve our clients.”

Clearwell has strengthened Pooley & Oliver’s reputation as a tech-savvy firm and a pioneer in the use of automated document analysis and review. “We’re convinced that Pooley & Oliver is years ahead of our peers by offering this kind of advanced document analysis service,” Oliver said. “Clearwell gives us a solid competitive edge over other firms, and a level of service our clients simply can’t get anywhere else.”

ABOUT CLEARWELL SYSTEMS

Clearwell Systems, a leader in Intelligent E-Discovery, is transforming the way enterprises conduct e-discovery in response to litigation, regulatory inquiries, and corporate investigations. By automating the processing, analysis and review of electronically stored information, Clearwell enables enterprises to accelerate early case assessments, lower processing costs, reduce review workload, and gain control of e-discovery. Leading corporations, law firms, government agencies, and legal service providers have reduced e-discovery costs by as much as 80 percent within days of their deployments.

To learn how Clearwell can deliver value to your organization, contact an e-discovery expert at: info@clearwellsystems.com, or call us at: 877.727.9909.



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