

Streamlined eDiscovery – Many Steps, One Provider

BACKGROUND

Akerman Senterfitt is a prominent national law firm recognized for its expertise in multiple practice areas. The firm was engaged in a matter involving a great deal of electronically stored information (ESI) and selected Xact Data Discovery to handle the processing of nearly 700,000 documents. Akerman chose Xact based on the national footprint Xact offered and its expertise in handling large-scale ESI projects under an expedited timeline.

CHALLENGES

Shortly after the project began, it evolved from simple ESI processing into something much larger and more complex.

1. First, the firm learned of several more custodians and data sources that required immediate collection. The additional data needed to be forensically collected from multiple locations at the same time and within just a few days.
2. The secondary collection was more than double the size of the initial one, resulting in a data set of more than 2 million documents that needed to be filtered and processed.
3. The document review proved to be enormously cumbersome and time-consuming, as a linear review of all documents was required. After six months and with a critical deadline fast approaching, only 40 percent of the data had been reviewed.

SOLUTIONS

After demonstrating quality and superior service in the initial ESI processing and because the company offered the expertise and resources required, Xact was engaged by Akerman to handle the additional data collections. The Xact forensic team was dispatched to the multiple locations identified as new data sources and proceeded with the collections simultaneously.

The secondary collection yielded 1.5 million additional documents. All of the ESI was filtered, processed and culled to a data set of 1.3 million total documents that were then loaded into the Relativity platform for review. Xact provided training and support for Akerman's review team for the next six months while the linear review was in process.

Akerman recognized the value in its new partnership with Xact Data Discovery and trusted Xact to deliver one more critical piece in the eDiscovery process. With an upcoming deadline and more than half the documents yet to be examined, Xact managed the review of the remaining data set. With a team of 90 qualified reviewers working three shifts per day in the Xact Data Discovery Review Center in Vijayawada India, Xact completed the review in just 18 days. With a rolling production, which is seamless when one company is handling both aspects of the project, all of the data was produced within 21 days – finishing in advance of the deadline by four days.

SUMMARY

It is not uncommon for challenges to occur in the midst of any litigation or other matter involving complex or large sets of data. The roadblocks that come up are often both impossible to predict and unavoidable. Knowing how to handle these challenges while maintaining a steady course can make the difference for a successful eDiscovery project.

In this case, Akerman quickly recognized that partnering with a single qualified service provider to handle every stage of the discovery process was critical to keeping the project on track. With an expanded scope and impending deadlines, Akerman needed one trusted provider to streamline the entire project. The efficiencies gained were tremendous, and Akerman saved substantial time, which in turn saved the client millions of dollars in review costs.



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