



Case Study

Relativity: Technology Assisted Review

One Lawyer

Law In Order's client, a large energy company was involved in litigation over an environmental matter. Only one lawyer was assigned to the case, overseen by one independent consultant - an especially small team, given the 778GB of data collected for the case. In an effort to save costs, both sides agreed on a list of keywords to help identify relevant documents.

De-duplication culled the client's original count of 6.6 million documents down to 3 million documents. The list of keywords culled the document count significantly further, down to only 157,000 documents. However, with overly inclusive keywords like "environment" being used, it was evident there were still many non-responsive documents left in the collection to sort out, and that meant a lot of work remained for only one person to review.

Law In Order proposed using Relativity Technology Assisted Review.

"I am a great advocate of Assisted Review. We always put this option forward for any matter that has a high volume of documents," said Martin. "For this matter, there were a number of reasons it was a great option for our client."

Most notably, Law In Order calculated that if the one lawyer had to review all 157,000 documents linearly - strictly to identify relevant documents - the review would take 1,570 hours to complete. With the lawyer open to alternative processes, the decision was made. The team would use Technology Assisted Review.

The Technology Assisted Review Process

To begin the workflow, Law In Order's team used the overly inclusive keyword-responsive document set of 157,000 documents.

"We generally don't use keywords in addition to Assisted Review, but in this scenario, it actually fit the bill. It's important to have a decent amount of both non-relevant and relevant documents to train the software, and after applying the keywords, it still looked like we were left with a good mix of relevant and non-relevant documents," said Martin.

The lawyer completed three review rounds. Reviewing a random sample of 1,000 documents during each round to train the software on responsive versus non-responsive. For each round, six to seven percent of the documents were identified as responsive.

From there, the lawyer tested Relativity's accuracy by conducting a QA (Quality Assurance) round. For this fourth round, Martin and his team took a statistical sample of documents based on a 95 per cent confidence level and a two per cent margin of error.

This resulted in a sample of 2,226 documents, and the results were consistent, as six to seven per cent of the documents in the sample were coded as responsive.

Martin Flavell – eDiscovery Manager

Martin heads up the eDiscovery division at Law In Order, overseeing the data processing services and assisting legal departments by offering technical solutions and workflows. Martin has over 17 years experience in the areas of dispute resolution, eDiscovery, project management, and software development. He understands the complexities of unstructured data and offers solutions to make electronically stored information available for search, retrieval and review in a legally defensible manner.

In addition to the consistent results, the lawyer overturned only 174 of the 2,226 documents in the QA round. In other words, he disagreed with the software’s coding decisions only 7.8 per cent of the time, further demonstrating the computer’s accuracy. Moreover, he made an interesting discovery while reviewing the overturns.

“As he double-checked the overturns to see what led the computer to make an incorrect decision, he actually ended up agreeing with the software the majority of the time,” said Martin. “He realised his initial decisions were wrong.”

With this realisation and the already low overturn rate in mind, the lawyer felt the computer had achieved a consistent level of accuracy for this case, even after just one QA round - and decided to stop review.

Using the logic it learned from reviewing nearly 5,000 documents - three training rounds and one QA round, Relativity categorised the remaining 152,000 documents. In the end, 27,122 documents were marked responsive, 117,635 were non-responsive, and 300 remained uncategorised.

“Because of the limited resources, the legal team had very little time to complete this review. But, they were able to get good results quickly using Assisted Review,” said Martin.

Achieving the Results

Technology Assisted Review saved Law In Order’s client a considerable amount of money. Without Assisted Review, the client would have likely hired a junior lawyer, generally billing at \$200 AUD/hour to manually review all 157,000 keyword-responsive documents. Assuming the junior lawyer reviewed strictly for relevance at a rate of 100 documents per hour, it would have taken 1,570 hours to complete the first-pass review and would have cost the client \$314,000 AUD.

However, by using Technology Assisted Review, the client’s senior lawyer was able to complete the first-pass review at an estimated cost of \$29,000. A savings of approximately \$285,000 AUD for Law In Order’s client.

“This matter is a great example of the efficiency and cost savings realised by the use of Assisted Review,” said Martin.

“Our client was very pleased with the results.”

	Relativity Technology Assisted Review	Linear Review
Total documents in results set	157,000	157,000
Total documents reviewed	5,243	157,000
Percentage of documents reviewed for relevance	3%	100%
Document review rate	5,065/hour	100/hour
Attorney billing rate	\$500 AUD/hour	\$200 AUD/hour
Review cost	\$15,500 AUD	\$314,000 AUD
Analytics processing costs	\$13,500 AUD	\$0 AUD

**Review cost saving with Relativity Technology Assisted Review
= \$285,000 AUD**

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