

# LEGAL TECHNOLOGY

## iNSIDER

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THE ESSENTIAL GUIDE TO WHAT'S HOT (AND WHAT'S NOT) IN LAW OFFICE SYSTEMS

In association with



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## YEAR 2000 - SAY GOODBYE TO WORDPERFECT?

WordPerfect, once the legal profession's favourite wordprocessing package, looks like sliding into history when the clocks strike midnight on 31st December 1999.

Buried on parent company Corel's web site is the news that the company cannot guarantee the Y2K compliancy of any versions of WordPerfect prior to Version 7.0. Although this seems a reasonable position to take, as the earlier products were developed before Corel took over the WordPerfect business, it looks like the end of the line for the many law firms who still use the DOS and Unix versions of WordPerfect 5.1.

The end of 5.1 would also create problems for the English High Court, where a 1996 practice directions specifies that draft orders for injunctions should be submitted on disk in a WordPerfect 5.1 for DOS format. (☞ The choice of 5.1 was based on the argument that it was the lowest common denominator everyone can convert to and from. In effect ASCII with formatting.)

Although users will still be able to use 5.1, they will be unable to obtain extra copies of the program or support services. More importantly, they will also encounter difficulty with documents that use the double digit date format.

When asked to confirm its policy on Year 2000 computing issues, Corel told **LTi** we "would get an answer as soon as it's available". Since then, nothing.

This uncertainty has already prompted one leading legal systems supplier, Technology for Business, to write to all their users advising them they should regard 5.1 as unsustainable ➔

➔ after 1999 and plan to migrate to a more modern Windows wordprocessor. In fact TFB say that nearly 90% of orders coming in for new WP software are for Microsoft Word.

☞ **Comment...** Ironically, although Corel is currently trying to increase the appeal of its new WordPerfect 8.0 for Windows software by incorporating Dragon's Naturally Speaking voice recognition system, the company has told **LTi** that "there are no plans to release a version of its Legal Edition in the UK". This is despite the fact the Legal Edition has helped revive WordPerfect's standing with American lawyers. ☐

## NORWEL SHIPS NT

Norwel has confirmed that it will be releasing the Windows NT version of the Norwel Practice Management System on Microsoft SQL Server in April. The move coincides with the launch of Norwel's new computer aided billing and credit control modules. Norwel will also continue to support its PMS system on a Unix/Informix platform. ☐

## SCOTS HSSK DEBUT

The Law Society of Scotland's "off-the-shelf" solution for High Street law firms will make its public debut at the Society's annual conference and exhibition in Glasgow next week (3rd & 4th April). The system, called the Genesys Legal Office System, has been designed by Warren Wander's Manchester-based Office Solutions group in conjunction with the Scottish Law Society. Mr Wander's company was also originally involved with the English Law Society's ill-starred HSSK (High Street Starter Kit) project. ☐

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### Hydra "going to be huge"

According to Ed Hodgson, business development director at systems integrators The Data Base, the new Hydra "thin client" system from Microsoft is "going to be huge". Hodgson has been working with an advanced beta version of Hydra and believes it will prove very popular with law firms. One potential selling point is because it takes its "clock" from the server, Hydra automatically circumvents any Y2K compliance problems that may exist if older PCs are used as thin clients.

### NetWare to NT made easy

With more firms migrating from Novell NetWare to networks based on NT Server or Back Office Small Business Server, Microsoft has launched a new web facility at <http://www.microsoft.com/directaccess/nwrc.htm>. The site contains tools and information to simplify the transition.

### SOS WINS ANOTHER SLICE OF HAMBRO COUNTRYWIDE

Bath-based legal systems supplier Solicitors Own Software (SOS) has won another tranche of business from Hambro Countrywide's rapidly growing network of conveyancing centres.

Just over one year ago Hambro, already the operator of the biggest residential property estate agency chain in the UK, launched its "one stop" service to house buyers. Among other things, this offers a seven-day a week, flat fee conveyancing service supported by a network of regional conveyancing centres.

The centres are open from 8.30 am to 8.00 pm and can cater for both personal visitors and telephone business. But, according to Hambro's conveyancing services coordinator Richard Sawtell, what makes the centres really tick is their "innovative application of technology".

"We aim to deliver a fast, efficient and responsive service to take the headache out of house buying," says Sawtell. "Therefore we are more widely available than the competition and less dependent on paper files."

As part of its technology platform, Hambro Countrywide is using case management, time recording and accounts software - all supplied by SOS - running on Windows NT Server networks.

SOS systems are already in use in the Northampton, Brentwood and Woking conveyancing centres and the company is now installing systems at Hambro's new Manchester branch. Two more conveyancing centres are scheduled to open during the course of 1998.

Each centre is run independently, with an average of 30 to 40 users at each site and, according to Sawtell, one of the main selling points of the SOS software was its power and flexibility: "Key to our decision was the ability to tailor the software to our specification because Hambro Countrywide is no ordinary conveyancing business." ➔

➔ The case management system, which is fully integrated with the accounts module and includes EIS-style "drill down" facilities to analyse data, is designed to maximise workflow efficiency by pushing each job along with automatic reminders and letter generation at appropriate stages. It also allows any member of staff to establish the status of a conveyance and take it further. And, Hambro has observed that its intuitive Windows interface allows users to get going with very little training.

**Legal Technology Insider** will be looking at the IT plans of the rival Solicitors Property Centres network in a subsequent issue. □

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### AXXIA FIGHTS ITS WAY INTO PRESTON

Preston's largest law firm Peter Rickson & Partners has signed up Axxia Systems as the supplier of its next generation of accounts and case management systems. The firm, which has a large insurance litigation practice, chose Axxia out of a short list that included AIM and Norwel to replace its existing Linetime system.

According to Rickson's IT manager Allan Green, the Axxia solution offered the benefits of "a seamless interlacing of practice management, case management and management information systems as well as its interlinking with existing internet, intranet and email capabilities.

"The drive for quality is demanding not only speedier, more cost effective day-to-day working but also a far greater focus on the business, rather than the professional, aspects of the firm. At the end of the day, we need to demonstrate our value to clients and, as competition gets fiercer, they will most certainly start to judge us on both legal and business performance. I don't think it would be overstating things to say that the 'holistic' approach afforded by this new technology is the key to our future success." ➔

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➔ ➡ **Comment...** This is Axxia's second major "win" in the North-West this month – Keogh Ritson in Bolton has also ordered the Arista system. The Peter Rickson order is also significant as it seems to refute the rumours that Axxia is currently only winning repeat or upgrade business from existing Axxia users.

Talking of rumours, it now seems the first implementation of the Windows NT version of Arista will be on Informix. The choice of NT plus an Informix database is also proving popular with a number of new Elite sites, including Laytons and Warner Cranston. □

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### IGL GETS ISO

IGL Legal Imaging, one of the newer names in the UK litigation support market, has just been awarded the ISO 9000 quality standard.

According to sales & marketing director Karen Short, the company felt it was essential to aim for this standard because "We are not a software company selling a particular product, we are a people business providing a service.

"Technology clearly has a key role to play in the scanning, and archiving business but, when lawyers are using the services of a company such as IGL to help with a major document processing project, it is also equally important for them to know that the staff we use are honest, intelligent and flexible. In effect we are offering an FM service and the quality of the service we deliver is dependent upon the quality of our staff."

IGL, which was set up by a number of former Xerox Services staff, also believes in a proactive approach to document processing. "You may have a system with the capability to scan 16,000 pages a day," says Short, "but the most costly part of the process is actually physically preparing the paper for scanning. With some companies charging 50p for every staple they remove, if we can get in early and advise on the best way to prepare archives for scanning, there is ➡

➡ a potential to save the client money. The earlier we start also means less rush and less overtime!" IGL can be contacted on ☎ 0171 538 9998 & 0171 987 2324. □

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### ROGER GRAY BACK

Roger Gray, former head of legal systems supplier Timeslice, prior to its takeover by City Computers, is back in business with a new company called SilverLink (☎ 0171 394 5775). The company is currently previewing a new workflow/document assembly system but **LTi** understands a version based on Delphi/Sybase is also under development.

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### BUSINESS GOOD AT NEC AND BRISTOL

Spring is in the air and legal systems buyers are on the prowl with the organisers of the two exhibitions that took place early this month both reporting good business.

Truemist say the two-day *Software for Solicitors* show in Bristol had its highest attendance figures for four years. While Nationwide Exhibitions report their new *National Legal Office* event at the Birmingham NEC was a success, with a substantial number of exhibitors already booking stands for next year's event, scheduled for 16th to 19th March 1999.

The verdict from suppliers **LTi** contacted was that while attendance was patchy at the NEC (there were over 1000 visitors on the Wednesday but, thanks to travel chaos caused by a major crash on the M42 and traffic arriving for the first day of Crufts, Thursday was quiet) the quality of visitors was high.

Ed Hodgson of Data Base said that although his company was showing a high value product, the NEC produced "quality contacts". Tony Landes, whose company Quill was at both Bristol and the NEC, described the two events as "extremely successful and generating good leads". □

### People and places

Fax and comms supplier **Kommunicate Ltd** has moved to **Sheridan House, 40-43 Jewry Street, Winchester SO23 8RY. The new phone number is 01962 835000.**

As a result of switching ISPs, **Copitrak Systems' email address has been changed to: keithc@copitrak-europe.com**

To support the demand for its **Egami-Legal litigation support system, DPA-Egami has recruited Jacqui Rawlinson as training consultant. Previously with the litigation support team at Theodore Goddard, she has in the past worked on legal IT projects with a number of suppliers, including Oyez and Miles 33. Barrister Nirdosh Kutty has also joined DPA's training team. He has worked on database and trademark management systems.**

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### Back to the future (of law)

Richard Susskind's magnum opus *The Future of Law* is now available in paperback (price £14.99). The author has also taken the opportunity to update the material to take into account the emergence of an internet culture and the impact this could have on legal practice. More details are at <http://www1.oup.co.uk/academic/Law/susskind/>

### IT+C now out

Also published this month is the first issue of the *IT + Communications Newsletter & Law Reports* from Legalease. This is a multimedia title that comes in the form of hard copy law reports and newsletter, with an additional copy on 3.5" disk and access to downloadable material on a web site. The annual subscription is £285 but *IT+C* is available on special offer for £190 until 30th April 1998. For details call ☎ 0171 396 5610.

### Legal publishing special report

With so much happening in the legal publishing world – the sale of FT Law & Tax, the failed merger between Reed and Kluwer – this week *LTi* provides a round up of the latest developments and what they could mean for lawyers...

### MARRIAGES MADE - AND UNMADE - IN HEAVEN

Although the real reason for the collapse of the proposed Reed Elsevier/Wolters Kluwer legal publishing merger-of-the-decade will probably be never known – was it just EU regulatory problems or also a dispute over the balance of power in the new business – what shareholders have lost looks like being the customers' gain, in terms of a wider choice of services and more competition.

For example Reed (the parent of Butterworths) will not have to break up its electronic publishing operation by, as was suggested at one stage, having to dispose of its Lexis-Nexis business. Similarly, Croner (part of the Wolters Kluwer group) will not have to dispose of its recently acquired New Law Publishing division, which operates in almost direct competition with Butterworths' new *All England Reporter* service.

Thomson Legal's acquisition of FT Law & Tax also looks like proving a good deal for customers, as almost the whole business (including the *Solicitors Journal*) has been merged with Sweet & Maxwell in what has been described as "not so much a takeover, more of a marriage".

In his official statement on the acquisition, Sweet's managing director Mike Dixon said the two companies were "an excellent fit" as FT Law & Tax's focus on precedents and subscription products would complement Sweet & Maxwell's portfolio of "black letter law" titles.

Dixon went on to say that with the addition of FT Law & Tax "Sweet & Maxwell will now be able to offer an even broader range of products to the legal community. Similarly, our joint resources and combined experience will allow us ➔

➔ to develop ever more valuable products and services in what has become an increasingly competitive market." (See also next story.)

Reed Elsevier seems undaunted by the collapse of the Wolters Kluwer deal, with senior management talking of a £2 billion war chest to spend on further acquisitions. One target being mentioned is the US legal publisher Matthew Bender. Bender's parent, the Times Mirror group, has stated it is looking for a buyer and Reed already shares a joint interest with Bender in Shepard's, a US publisher of legal citation products. UK electronic publishing specialist Context is also being mentioned as potential target. □

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### SWEETS PLANNING DIGITAL PUBLISHING PUSH

Later this spring Sweet & Maxwell will be launching its new "Connections" range of digital products onto the legal market. Starting with *Woodfall on Landlord and Tenant*, the series will initially be based on CD-Rom but there are plans to eventually extend the service to include online updates.

Commenting on the project, Sweet's sales & marketing director Alina Lourie told *LTi* that Connections involved a lot more than just reproducing the pages of a book on screen. According to Lourie, the message publishers need to get across to lawyers and legal librarians is that digital products can actually add value to a practice.

"We have to show lawyers that electronic publications are actually better than conventional books and that if you buy a CD title it will effectively pay for itself by saving you money."

By way of benefits, Lourie suggests these include: saving time on research, being able to carry out better research and – for solicitors at least – being able to do more research in-house and so save on counsels' fees.

This added value argument is also used by Sweet & Maxwell to justify its ➔

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➔ pricing policy which will typically see CD Rom products costing the same as or even more than conventional books. (*The pricing structure is complex as it takes into account reduced rate first year trial subs as well as network licences for larger firms.*) However, as part of Sweet & Maxwell's added value mission, to ensure users do get the best out of the Connections range, subscribers will be also offered a free on-site training programme.

According to Lourie, the Thomson group (Sweet & Maxwell's parent) has invested heavily in not only technology and content but also research into how law firms really work. "When it comes to adding functionality to digital products, it is essential we can add to a firm's value chain. Used properly, digital products will provide smaller firms with the tools to compete in niche areas," says Lourie.

☞ **Comment...** Sweet & Maxwell has in the past come in for criticism for its less than sparkling track record in digital publishing. Over the last three years the company has had more managing directors (four) than it has produced CD titles (three). And, while Lourie denies putting *Archbold* on CD was a purely defensive measure to compete with the rival CD version of *Blackstone's Criminal Practice*, she admits that producing the *White Book* in an Adobe Acrobat version rather than Folio Views was a "fiasco".

All this now looks like history because the combination of the Connections initiative and the old FT Law & Tax development team, (who had a formidable reputation for Folio and Hot Docs products) suggest Sweets has finally got its digital publishing act together. ☐

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### IFL IN HOT DOCS MOVE

Information for Lawyers, which has been involved in the electronic legal publishing business since the early 1990's, has set up an associate company called Proforma to publish legal forms based on the HotDocs document assembly system. ➔

➔ The new company's directors are Nick Holmes of IFL and Mark Wood of Eleetix, another legal systems supplier best known for its trust and probate software.

Holmes reckons "There is an untapped market among lawyers for an affordable electronic forms range that offers more than a tab-as-you-go approach but which is not shoehorned into a larger case management system."

To this end, Proforma is now working on a series of fully automated forms (ie they are compatible with Word and WordPerfect and can be completed onscreen) that can be purchased in packs on disk or downloaded from the web.

Proforma is formally launching its forms service next month to coincide with a special promotion being run by the Law Society, HotDocs UK distributor Capsoft and a number of other leading legal publishers but along with Land Registry, Companies House and High Court forms, the Proforma range will include matrimonial and Children Act forms.

Prices will be based on the number of users, starting at £75 for a single user licence. This also includes a HotDocs runtime licence. ☐

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### DISCLAW LAUNCHES ONLINE "MICRO" PAYMENTS

Disclaw Publishing, the publisher of the *Employment Law on a Disc (LOAD)* guide to employment law, has revamped its web site at <http://www.emplaw.co.uk> to support electronic commerce. Along with free information, the site now offers secure credit services so users can buy 24 hours access to the full database of legal material for online "micro" payment transactions of between £8 and £12.

The site has been developed by Community Internet plc of Oxford, who recently won the contract to redevelop the user interface for Croner's *New Law Online* service.

LOAD, which is available on CD as well as 3.5" disk, can also be bought from the Law Society (☎ 0171 320 591) ☐

### New faces at Catalyst

With Folio Views now effectively the industry standard for CD-Rom interfaces, the product's main UK distributor Catalyst (☎ 01993 708700) has expanded its sales and support team working with electronic publishing products in the legal sector. New recruits include Ken Rainsforth, Andrew Clark and Phil Darrell-Smith.

### Butterworths Family Law now shipping

Butterworths is now shipping its new *Family & Child Law Library* on CD-Rom. Subscribers to the *Library* receive a replacement updating CD each month. Along with the latest case reports, forms and precedents and the full narrative of Butterworths family law titles, the latest CD also includes the full text of *Rayden & Jackson on Divorce & Family Matters*.

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### Recruitment matters

**Stephen Dreyer has quit as head of IT at Olswang “by mutual agreement”. He is not being replaced but the firm has instead promoted Tim Hyman and Clive Knott to look after, respectively, IT operations & management and development & training.**

**Allen & Overy has been talking to headhunters about finding an IT strategy supremo for the firm.**

**Recruitment consultants Longbridge are to sponsor the “Best Use of IT” category in this year’s Lawyer/HIFAL awards. The judges will be looking for before-and-after implementation case studies. Copies of the entry form can be obtained by calling Craig Coverman of Longbridge on ☎ 0171 726 4011. Closing date for entries is 27th April.**

### IT’S NOT WHAT YOU DO BUT WHAT PEOPLE THINK

With law firms continuing to be dogged by IT staff departures, this week Craig Coverman of Longbridge looks at some of the wider issues associated with attracting and retaining IT staff.

An essential first step is to develop an overall policy with regards to staffing issues: one which runs along side other business plans and the IT strategy.

In otherwords, don’t make important technical or procurement decisions without keeping an eye on the “people” aspect. Afterall, you must have the IT staff to implement and support these projects, so work closely with the personnel department to implement a programme that not only attracts staff but also helps retain them.

However, this can all be wasted effort if the market perception of the firm is not what it could be. Step two must therefore be to “sell” the IT function. The market needs to perceive the firm as a quality employer, with an IT function that is both interesting and successful.

If market perception is poor, no amount of advertising or recruiting will attract either the quantity or quality of candidates required on board – word travels quickly in the IT market. And, if your own staff do not perceive the IT department as a “satisfying” place to work, you risk seeing them vote with their feet. Not least because thanks to EMU and Y2K there are currently plenty of job vacancies to chose from.

Jean Young, the personnel manager at Lovell White Durrant, believes in today’s market it is vital to implement a long term strategy that begins with the firm communicating a positive message about its internal IT environment to the open market.

Interestingly, the firm’s IT director Ed Dean admits that although LWD has consistently been at the forefront in a number of areas of legal IT, in the past ➔

➔ the firm has been guilty of not presenting these facts to the outside world.

Having found your new recruits, get them off to a good start with an induction programme that provides a sense of place and purpose and covers such topics as the history and structure of the firm, current IT strategy and its future plans. At this stage staff should also receive initial training in any proprietary systems that may be used.

Many firms would be happy if they could only slow the rate of staff attrition. With this objective in mind, two sets of factors must be considered, namely growth and hygiene.

Growth factors include training and continuing staff development. This can go beyond just external training and accreditation to include job swapping and project work – all of which provide a feeling that a career plan is in place.

Hygiene factors encompass pay and work conditions – including package details and the team’s “culture”. Pay scales should be in line with industry standards. As we tell all our clients, IT staff find out very quickly if they are being underpaid – and also if other team members are being paid over the odds.

Finally, accept the fact some staff will leave – given the current market this is pretty much inevitable – plan for it.

For example, if staff do quit undertake an “exit interview” and feed the comments back into the personnel process. Also, it is not unusual for staff to leave only to later regret the decision. So, where possible, keep the door open for them to return and use departures as an opportunity to offer remaining staff a new role or added responsibilities. You will often find you are able to replace the incumbent with a more junior individual. (See also *Olswang story in side bar.*)

In the current market you do need to be more active in recruiting people and then keeping them happy once they are on board. And remember, if you don’t do it, your competitors will. ☐

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### Internet & comms news

#### INTRANETS - 8 FACTORS TO CONSIDER AT THE OUTSET

Three years ago the term "intranet" was virtually unknown. Today intranet development is high on the agendas of many law firms, both large and small. To coincide with the *Intranets and Beyond* conference in London this week, **LTi** looks at some of the factors that should be considered before embarking on intranet projects...

**The technology platform.** There are at least four competing approaches to developing an intranet:

**D-I-Y** Get a copy of *Microsoft FrontPage*, start converting documents into HTML and give everyone web browser software. An added attraction here is that both Netscape and Internet Explorer are now available free of charge.

**Use an intranet specialist** There are a growing number of software houses now advertising their skills as intranet developers. Some of these third-parties are very good and can add a lot of useful functionality to an intranet. Sadly, others will simply charge a lot of money for converting your documents into HTML using *FrontPage* and giving everyone a copy of (free) browser software.

**Lotus Notes** Two years ago Notes had been written off as dead in the water. Today, thanks to its reinvention via Domino as an integral part of the web, it is becoming the intranet platform of choice for many law firms. There are over 20 million users of Notes worldwide, with nine million copies shipping in 1997 alone.

**Data Mining** And then there is a fourth option which suggests that instead of replicating information from existing databases and publishing it onto an intranet, a more scientific approach would be to use a "middleware" data mining application (such as one of Oracle's decision support systems family).

**The choice of content.** Having decided the platform, the next major issue is content. Should you opt for:

➔ **Dull-but-worthy** Typically this will be a heavy duty know-how system full of hyperlinks to "mission critical" legal resources. Or, should you consider:

**Light-and-frothy** Go for content with popular appeal and widespread application to all members of staff, such as a copy of the internal phone directory or staff bulletin board, so as to build up a critical mass of regular users.

**Who is in charge?** In some firms there is virtually a power struggle between:

**The IT department** Because an intranet project can involve the whole IT infrastructure (networks, servers, desktop applications, database integration and associated roll out and training), there is a powerful argument that they should be run by the IT department. And,

**The IS department** Alternatively, it can be argued that because intranets are primarily know-how projects, they should be run by information services managers and librarians who understand know-how and legal research. □

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#### MIXED RECEPTION FOR INTERNET EXPLORER 4.0

The latest version of Microsoft's web browser software Internet Explorer 4.0 is receiving a mixed reception from users.

While the recent launch of IE4 for Unix (the software is optimised for the Sun Solaris platform) has been widely welcomed by previously ignored Unix users, a growing number of corporate Windows 95 users are going back to the earlier IE3 product. For example Barclaycard has complained about the product's stability and demand on computing resources, while other users have expressed concern about the way IE4 is so closely tied to the desktop.

Microsoft admits there were a number problems with the first release of IE4 but claims they have been fixed by Version 4.01. The Unix version of IE4 can be downloaded from <http://www.microsoft.com/ie/unix/> □

### Seen around the Web

**Personal injuries case management software specialist Alternative Team Ltd now has a web site at <http://www.a-team.co.uk>**

**Privacy Laws & Business, who specialise in conferences and publishing on data protection topics, has a new web site at <http://www.privacylaws.co.uk> The site includes material on the EU Data Protection Directive and the new Data Protection Bill.**

**The pressures of fee earning mean most lawyers do not spend too much time surfing the internet. But, if you are "lying to your colleagues, restless, neglecting social obligations and irritable when not working with a computer," then you may be suffering from what US psychologists are calling "IAD" (internet addiction disorder). Help can be found at <http://www.computeraddiction.com>**

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Recruitment Advertisement



### Litigation Support Project Manager City of London - salary to £40,000 + package

Our client, a top international law firm, is looking for an individual to manage its Litigation Support Group. The firm considers this function vital to the operation of its Product Liability area, and has always put in place the most technically advanced systems, some of which have been developed in-house.

The successful candidate will possess a combination of the following skills:

- Strong team and project management experience
- Good technical infrastructure skills (including LAN and WAN)
- Software development skills (or of managing developments) utilising VisualBasic
- Strong customer facing skills.

If you are interested in applying for the above position, or are considering a move this year, call Craig Coverman on 0171 726 4011 in full confidence. Alternatively you can fax your resume on 0171 726 0036 or email to coverman@longbridge.com

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Next issue...  
Issue 58 of the Insider will be published on Monday 6th April.

### LEGAL IT DIARY DATES

**March 25 to 27 Document Management Roadshow.** Conference and exhibition taking place at Manchester, Birmingham and Bristol. Admission free, for tickets call ☎ 01905 727606 or visit <http://www.itx.co.uk>

**March 27 & 28, BILETA, Trinity College, Dublin.** The 13th annual conference of the British & Irish Legal Education Technology Association takes place in Dublin this year, with speakers including the President of Ireland, Professor Mary McAleese. For details visit <http://www.bileta.ac.uk> ➔

### April 3 & 4, Law Society of Scotland Exhibition, Glasgow.

Truemist, who organise the Barbican and GMEX events, have been appointed to organise the exhibition that will run alongside this year's AGM and conference of the Scottish Law Society. For details call ☎ 0181 742 3399.

**April 23, Legal Technology Briefing, Hotel Crillon, Paris.** Invitation only briefing by L*Ti* editor Charles Christian on latest trends in law office technology and use of the internet by lawyers for heads of IT at the Paris offices of international law firms. For details email: keithc@copitrak-europe.com ☐

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