



Knowledge Management and IT In-House Group



PRESS RELEASE

LITIG and KMIT release guidance on the production of transaction deal bibles – 30 September 2009

In conjunction with the Knowledge Management and IT in-house Group (KMIT), Legal IT Innovators Group (LITIG) members have been working to agree a common standard for the exchange of electronic transaction deal bibles between law firms and clients.

Research found that whilst many firms invest a lot of time and effort into producing branded CDs on the basis these will be used by lawyers at their clients, increasingly the CDs are delivered to clients' IT departments who copy the files to shared network drives or document management systems.

KMIT recommended a standard naming convention and file structure which LITIG members helped enhance and then both groups jointly endorsed the standard at recent meetings.

Much of the initial work was undertaken by Andrew Dey (LITIG member and Chair of KMIT) who worked closely with a number of law firms. Commenting on feedback from law firms, Derek Southall (Chair of LITIG), said "It's all too easy to assume we know what the Client wants from IT. This is a great example of Clients being proactive to help law firms deliver what they really need.

The full Guidance Note can be found on the LITIG web site at www.litig.org

Please contact Andrew Dey or Derek Southall in relation to any queries.

Andrew Dey
Tel: +44 (0)20 7116 2686
andrew.dey@barclays.com

Derek Southall
Tel: +44 (0)870 733 0573
derek_southall@wragge.com

***** READY FOR RELEASE *****
PRESS RELEASE – NOTES TO EDITORS

Litig (the 'Legal IT Innovators Group') was originally formed in late 2002 to comment and advise on the potential value and use of an integrated matter management/workflow system across all desktops within a law firm. Following successful conclusion of this initiative, the group created its own independent structure and is funded by its members, who are responsible for over 35,000 legal IT users.

A strictly non-sales environment, Litig currently has members from 68 firms/organisations which include law firms with UK fees from £3m to over £300m plus representatives from leading in house legal departments, all with a keen interest in UK legal IT issues.

Litig operates at a strategic rather than operational level, meets for a whole day each quarter (at one of its member's offices) and has had/given presentations on topics such as:

- Electronic Billing (from the in house legal client's perspective & required UK standards)
- Electronic Files
- Electronic Taxonomies to transfer information
- XML standards (such as LSSA and PISCES)
- Legal IT trends & priorities
- The effect of the 'Statutory Imperative' caused by government initiatives
- E conveyancing
- The strengths and weaknesses of Legal IT finance systems
- Digital Rights Management

Litig are keen to work with existing legal sector bodies (such as The Law Society or Society for Computers & Law) in order to pursue a co-ordinated approach, support other groups and avoid duplication of effort.

If you are interested in finding out more about LITIG or would like to become a member – please visit the Litig web site www.Litig.org, contact Litig via mail@Litig.org or call Derek Southall (Chair and Director) on 0870 733 0573, Peter Owen (Director and Secretary) on 0121 706 1755, Rosemary Kind (Director) on 07712 647754 or Graeme Low (Director) on 01223 222452.

KMIT was formed in 2006 with the specific intention of providing a forum for those responsible for Knowledge Management and IT within in-house legal departments to network and share best practice and standards. A strictly non-sales environment, KMIT currently has members from 26 companies across a variety of sectors and usually meets, at the offices of one of the members, once a quarter. As well as reviewing the use of standards and creation of guidance around the production of deal bibles, KMIT has recently had discussions on topics such as:

- On-line legal services
- Social networking
- The use of Intranets and collaboration software
- Document management
- E-billing
- Legal training
- The value of knowledge management to in-house legal teams.

For further information on KMIT please contact Andrew Dey on 020 7116 2686.