



Leighton

e-Discovery case study



6 Weeks. 14TB of Data Processed. 70% Savings in Document Review Costs.

Leveraging the powerful combination of legal expertise and eDiscovery technology, Leighton scores significant benefits partnering with Exigent and DISCO.

Challenge

Too much data and not enough time – that’s the never-ending thorn in legal’s side. Though many have endured this pain, few have overcome it as successfully as Leighton, a Hong Kong-based construction company.

Leighton has delivered key infrastructure and high-profile buildings across Asia for 45 years with an enviable record for safety and accountability. When they received a Chief Executive’s Commission of Enquiry into a rail construction project, they needed to gather and analyze a vast amount of data within the strict government deadlines.

But Leighton had a challenge: Their in-house legal team had limited capacity for a project of this magnitude. To augment their team, they selected Exigent’s litigation expertise, project management, and technology to get things done.

In just six weeks, Leighton needed to process, search and review 14TBs of data, including 9m electronic files. Not only was there a tremendous amount of documentation to sift through in a short period of time, but the effort also spanned Asia, the US, and South Africa and required tight collaboration with the client.

A project of this size and scope could cripple even the most agile of legal teams — but with Exigent’s help, Leighton not only met their deadlines but also saved more than 70 percent in comparable law firm costs.

Here’s how it was done.

Solution

Exigent mobilized a 60-person review team to manage the process and engaged their e-Discovery team to recommend the most appropriate e-Discovery software for the project. As a result, DISCO was selected as the technology partner to process and review the mind-blowing 14TB of data.

Exigent, DISCO and Leighton used AI and predictive coding to reduce the review set even further, decreasing the documents from 9m to 1.2m. By focusing on key document types with priority-ranked search terms, Exigent condensed this again to 330k files, maximizing efficiency and reducing the overall cost of the project.

The Result

Together with DISCO, Exigent was able to:

- Reduce an initial discovery of 9m documents to 330k.
- Prioritize documents in just six weeks.
- Meet the enquiry deadlines for submission of information to the government.

An in-depth understanding of the technology and the way AI could be applied to the project was a crucial component of Exigent’s ability to meet the deadlines.

Importantly, Exigent’s proposal of a fixed fee for e-Discovery – based on the volume of GBs with unlimited users and features — satisfied Leighton’s requirement of value for money by delivering considerable cost savings on the first-pass document review in comparison to a law firm’s fees.

“Not only were Exigent right on the mark, scaling quickly, but they came to us with innovative ideas about how we could prioritize the review process to meet our deadlines. Experts in technology, as well as legal, Exigent, made what could have been a very challenging situation a much more efficient and cost-effective process.”

– Legal Manager, Leighton Asia

Exigent is a global alternative legal services provider operating at the intersection of law, business, and technology. For information about Exigent visit exigent-group.com