Altegrity buys Kroll:
Ontrack next on block?

The security services firm Altegrity (which is owned by Providence Equity Partners) has bought the Kroll corporate investigations business from Marsh & McLennan for $1.13 billion in cash. (Marsh bought Kroll for $1.9 billion in 2004.) It is widely expected the Kroll Ontrack e-discovery and litigation support business unit will be sold to another player in the ECM/storage/e-discovery sector, with both Iron Mountain and Autonomy rumored as possible suitors.

E-discovery on increase at government agencies

Austin-based IE Discovery Inc has published the results of its 2009 Benchmarking Study of Electronic Discovery Practices for Government Agencies. The study reports a ‘significant increase’ in the areas of legal reviews, individual legal holds, consultations with IT, outsourcing and the consideration given to attachments and document families. Other findings include...
• The participation of lawyers in the collection process continues to decline, with custodians, IT staff and contractors increasingly handling document collection.
• Document production formats continue to vary: paper is the most popular, followed by image with text and then native productions.
• As e-discovery becomes more mainstream, agencies are having less trouble finding budget and getting approval from senior management but more trouble finding qualified staff. One consequence of this has been a ‘significant trend’ towards outsourcing. As IE Discovery’s chief legal officer Bill Detamore commented “As data volumes and complexity increase, government agencies seem to be struggling to find staff and scale their internal systems. As a result, they are turning more to outside service providers.”

The survey was conducted in November 2009, with respondents from 25 government agencies. A summary of the results is available at www.iediscovery.com/services/government/survey.aspx

Bighand shipping new iPhone app

Bighand has launched the second iteration of its Bighand for iPhone dictation app. The iPhone app is part of Bighand’s Enterprise Edition and new features include: record speech, edit, insert, overwrite, fast forward or rewind; convert voice-to-text via a server-based engine if no PA support is available; expedite document production by setting a low, normal, or high priority; receive automatic notifications about completed documents and review as required; and, take photos from within the app and attach them automatically to a dictation.

The app is specified for iPhone 3G, 3GS and iPhone 4 and is available from the iTunes App Store.
• We also hear Bighand previewed a version of their software running on the new Apple iPad at the ALA Show in Boston last month and picked up over 250 leads and expressions of interest.
Ethical walls a priority

Three new deals this month highlight the importance law firms now give to confidentiality management software. Fox Rothschild LLP has implemented the Wall Builder system from IntApp to assist with internal confidentiality policies, enforce information access restrictions and track compliance across the firm. The firm has integrated Wall Builder with its Open Text DM5 and LegalKEY applications. Meanwhile Reed Smith LLP has formalized plans to upgrade to IntApp Wall Builder v4.1 as part of a project to implement and secure Autonomy iManager RecordsManager.

Separately, the Frayman Group has just announced that, after a competitive procurement process, Locke Lord Bissell & Liddell LLP has selected its Compliguard Protect system for information governance and confidentiality. Locke Lord will be running Compliguard Protect to manage its information barriers, ethical walls and unusual activity monitoring.

June’s new deals

Foley standardize on Clearwell for e-discovery
Foley Hoag LLP has standardized on the Clearwell E-Discovery Platform for processing, early case assessment and first-pass review of electronically stored information (ESI). In one recent case, using Clearwell hosted at Esquire Solutions, over 700,000 documents were processed within a day and available for ECA. The case team then used the auto filter and transparent search functions to reduce the data by 87% post de-duplication, significantly cutting downstream costs.

Farmers Insurance select MROinsight
Farmers Insurance, the third largest home and auto insurance group in the United States, has picked MedNeutral’s MROinsight (Medical Records Optimization) decision support tool for medical records in litigated BI claims. MROinsight combines web-based records management with a file level summary of medical facts, to support initial case triage and early case assessment via reviews that flag mitigating factors and relevant issues for litigation attorneys. For cases going to jury trial, Farmers use MRO abstract for a detailed overview of all relevant information catalogued.

Gray Plant Mooty gain with Best Authority
Minneapolis law firm Gray Plant Mooty has implemented Levit & James’ Best Authority software to assist paralegals and other staff in building tables of authorities. The firm estimates the software cuts TOA creation time from 30-60 minutes down to about 5 minutes, while simultaneously reducing the risk of missed or incorrectly formatted citations.
New product launches

Anaqua launches IP management system
Anaqua has released Anaqua Essential, a new system designed to help law firms manage intellectual assets on behalf of their clients. Along with docketing and workflow automation for global patent and trademark management, the system also offers email and document management integration, as well as a client portal for status reports.

www.anaqua.com

Best Authority now Office 2010 compatible
This month sees the launch of v2.7 of the Best Authority tables of authorities software from Levit & James. Best Authority is already certified for use on Windows 7 and the new version adds Microsoft Office 2010 compatibility.

www.levitjames.com

DocAuto launches new iManage utility
DocAuto this month added a brand new product to its range of iManage utilities. Called iImport Desktop v1.0, this is an add-in to Autonomy iManage Desksite or Filesite that allows users to quickly and easily import content, preserving organizational structures if desired, from native operating system folders and subfolders directly into the iManage Worksite DMS. The new product has a simple to use Windows Explorer-like interface and can be ‘locked down’ to limit where content can be imported. DocAuto president David Kiefer said “iImport Desktop is an entry level version of our long-established iImport product, that addresses common needs we see for simpler importing tools designed for non-technical users.”

www.docauto.com

Nuix in Sharepoint first
Nuix is claiming a world first following the launch of what it says is the only forensically defensible means of collecting all ESI (electronically stored information) from Microsoft Sharepoint sites, including dynamic content. The new Nuix Collector for Sharepoint application can collect discussion threads, blogs, wikis, calendars, task lists and all associated data in a fully automated fashion. Collector, which supports Sharepoint WSS, 2007, 2010 and cloud-based Sharepoint sites, can also render acquired content as it looked on the original Sharepoint site.

• In other Nuix news: Document Technologies Inc has adopted the Nuix Enterprise Discovery platform to power its e-discovery processing capabilities. And, litigation support consultancy LITMG LLC has entered a partnership agreement with Nuix, that will see LITMG using Nuix technology to offer document search, selection, redaction, analysis and early case assessment services to corporate legal departments, law firms and government agencies.

www.nuix.com

Autonomy to buy CA arm
In late news... Neil Araujo, the chief executive of Autonomy iManage, has announced plans to purchase CA Technologies’ information governance business. The acquisition will see Autonomy incorporate CA’s email management Message Manager and Records Manager software into its portfolio. The deal is expected to close in the third quarter of this year.
New hires

Miklaszewski joins IntApp as managing director
Brigitte Miklaszewski has joined risk management software specialists IntApp as managing director for the Mid-Atlantic and Southeast United States regions. Ms Miklaszewski brings over 20 years of legal industry sales and account management skills to IntApp. She has previously held software sales roles with Aderant and Elite.

Shane Gammon to head DTI Birmingham
Shane Gammon has joined Document Technologies Inc as marketplace director for DTI’s Birmingham operation. He will be responsible for sales and service delivery of legal support services to law firm and corporate customers in Alabama.

Molesky joins InterLegal New York
Litigation and e-discovery technologies specialist InterLegis is expanding its New York presence with the appointment of Rich Molesky as its Northeastern regional sales director.

Certification first for CP
Congratulations to Client Profiles, which has just been awarded professional services certification by Microsoft and AMR Research (a Gartner company). This recognition makes Client Profiles the first company in the entire professional services industry to be certified as an industry expert through this program. The certification system is a new way to allow Microsoft Dynamics partners – Client Profiles is well known for its CRM4Legal software – to demonstrate their industry-specific expertise.

News in brief

• E-discovery and computer forensics specialist Avansic has published a white paper on ‘de-NISTing’ – the process of reducing the number of files in a document review by the ‘known file filtering’ of files known to belong to certain software programs, using a list of file hashtags created by the National Institute of Standards & Technology (NIST). www.avansic.com/News/Story/96/
• In our last issue we gave the wrong URL for Geller Data Solutions Inc, it should be www.gdsi.com
• We will be reviewing Marc Lauritsen’s new book The Lawyer’s Guide to Working Smarter with Knowledge Tools (ABA Law Practice Management Section) in our July issue.

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Thomson Reuters buy Complinet

Thomson Reuters last week announced it was buying London-based Complinet, a provider of global risk and compliance information services for financial institutions and their law firm advisors. The terms of the deal, expected to close in Q2, were not disclosed. Complinet employs 200 staff globally.

Putting process service on the iPhone

The iPhone (and we guess Apple iPad in the months to come) is a great platform that leaves you thinking “wow, what a great idea” every time a new app is announced that not only leverages the technology to the best advantage but also addresses a genuine business need. This month we came across CivilMap, which was created by two Colorado process servers – Mike Kingery and Tyrel Lasley. The CivilMap app allows the serving process to be documented with third parties as proof of service. For example, when the service begins, the GPS location is recorded, along with a time stamp and an audio record starts. When the process server completes the service, the information is sent to the database, checked by the office personnel, then an affidavit is generated from the information on the database. And, all the while, the progress is accessible to attorneys who can follow the record in real time.

Apart from creating a digital audit trail of the process service, CivilMap also addresses some of the post-service delays and mistakes that can arise. The record of service is immediately sent back to the service company – and in a format that can be fed directly into the draft affidavit, without the need to rekey information. For more information, including details of pricing, visit the website.

http://civilmap.com

Next issue...

The next issue of ALTi (No.24) will be published on Thursday 8 July. In the meantime keep up with all the latest legal IT news by visiting our blog at www.theorangerrag.com or Twitter @ChristianUncut