A streamlined approach
Matter, contract and document management for legal teams
Introducing ES / Unity

ES / Unity, powered by Repstor, is a matter and contract management application built exclusively for the Microsoft Office 365/SharePoint platform. It provides legal teams with the tools, processes and data they need to work effectively and efficiently.

ES / Unity was created by lawyers for lawyers designed from the ground up to be a legal team solution and not just another case management tool.

Developed and refined over many years and client implementations, ES / Unity has Eversheds Sutherland’s vast knowledge of the legal marketplace and best practice approaches in its DNA.

That, combined with the extensive email and document management technology experience provided by Repstor, makes ES / Unity an unbeatable proposition.

ES / Unity addresses common challenges faced by in-house teams:

- To do more with less
- To prioritise and focus on the right work
- To demonstrate value and performance
- To drive efficiency and best practice

ES / Unity is cost effective, easy to implement and easy to use.

Our capabilities – sample case studies

ES / Unity provides an effective, flexible and scalable solution for both small and large teams.

A world-leading international law firm
The client – a global law firm seeking to exploit Office 365 for matter management. Aiming to increase its fee-earners’ work efficiency by allowing them to access and share matter documentation readily across locations, in order to:
- maximise fee earner time
- transform transparency
- deliver compliance
- provide matter access on/off-line

Repstor’s custodian for legal has transformed matter documentation access and provided a more systematic way of managing and tracking matter-specific documents that’s efficient, reliable and transparent.

Global distribution business
The client – a global tech distribution giant with a turnover in excess of $32bn and legal teams in six different locations needed to:
- streamline interactions with its service users
- improve operational efficiency
- achieve better global oversight of activity and resource utilisation

Following a period of consultancy, Eversheds Sutherland implemented Unity with a phased approach, first managing and refining the change in the US and then rolling out to South America, France, Germany, Spain and Benelux.
A matter lifecycle management solution for legal teams

ES / Unity provides a full end-to-end technology solution for matter and document management.

The following illustration provides a high-level overview of a typical matter lifecycle.

1. An email is sent to the legal team notifying them of the new work request
2. The legal team review the work and accept it or ask for more information. Work which can be progressed is assigned to a team member
3. Team members provide regular status updates via a simple form until the matter is complete. All changes are reflected in real-time reports
4. Documents and emails are managed and stored centrally with the following features:
   - Back-up
   - Version control
   - Collaboration
   - Comparison
   - Outlook integration
5. Legal professionals access matters via seamless integrations with MS Outlook, Office and SharePoint or their mobile device

Technology

ES / Unity is built on Microsoft SharePoint, which is becoming the industry standard for enterprise content management. It is an approach which delivers many benefits, including:

- reduced costs – leverage your existing investment in SharePoint
- familiarity – users already understand the concepts used in our product, improving adoption
- easier IT approval – IT understand and know how to support SharePoint and associated Microsoft technologies, addressing most objections to on-boarding a new system

Our application works on both SharePoint on-premises (client hosted) and SharePoint Online (cloud hosted) giving you and your IT team total flexibility in your choice of installation.

Help! – We don’t have SharePoint.

This is no problem – we can work with you and your IT team to identify the best approach to get you up and running. Also with SharePoint Online, Microsoft now offers a secure, low cost, and flexible route into SharePoint use.
Benefits

Prioritise and focus on the right work – manage work requests more effectively and ensure team members are doing the right work at the right level.

Meeting demands and demonstrating value – lawyers allow customers to request legal support and demonstrate value through robust reporting.

“Best practice in a box” – implement a proven and effective way of working that is employed by legal teams around the globe.

Ease of use and easy adoption – team members can continue to use tool sets they are familiar with to manage their matters e.g. Microsoft Office and Outlook.

Give IT a reason to say “yes” – our approach can be approved and supported by your IT team more easily than with other proprietary systems.

De-risk to avoid sleepless nights – know that your critical data and documents are all in one place, secure from unauthorised access and regularly backed up.

Configurable – User-level configuration of key data points and features means that ES / Unity can reflect your unique and changing requirements.

Key features

Request management
Manage requests coming into the team and allocate them into the right resources. Provide full visibility of status throughout the matter lifecycle.

Document management
Replace ageing document management systems and shared drives with state-of-the-art intuitive tools. With advanced email and document management directly from Outlook and Microsoft Desktop.

Reporting and management information
Demonstrate the true value and performance of your team with dynamic reports. Visualise key performance indicators with charts and graphs.

Knowledge sharing and collaboration
Work more effectively as a team, collaborating on matters and documents with the knowledge that all changes are captured (and auditable) in one place. Leverage the value of knowledge in your team with precedents and know-how libraries.

Security and access control
Improve control over access to documents and matters whilst reducing risk with our seamless permissions model. Users only see what they have permission to see.

Accessibility
File emails and access matters on the go from your mobile device.

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