



Award

IT for Litigation Support/ADR

Entries were judged on return-on-investment, demonstrable efficiency savings, productivity gains and how the project has changed the working practices of litigators.

International law firm Bryan Cave is one of very few firms that can truly claim to have a global strategy for advancing the field of litigation support technologies.

On the technical level this encompasses a worldwide rollout of an integrated suite of software applications for trial preparation, multi-jurisdictional arbitration and electronic presentation of evidence in the courtroom. Some of these are standard packages widely used in the US, such as Summation and Litigator's Notebook, while others are bespoke.

In some cases the firm has allowed its members – most notably, associate Matthew Browndorf – to work on secondment with the product vendors to improve the products for use in a range of jurisdictions including the UK.

The other area in which Bryan Cave has achieved excellence is in training its litigators to fully understand the products they use at their desks and in court, based on an understanding that all the technology in the world cannot improve efficiency without knowledge of how to use it. Senior management, for example London lead partner Charles Attlee, have made it a priority to support the litigation department's global strategy to the hilt.

But Bryan Cave's commitment goes beyond rolling out technology for internal use. The firm is running a commendable campaign to promote the use of IT within the English judiciary and public sector legal bodies.

Winner

Bryan Cave



Also shortlisted in this category:

- Allen & Overy
- Beachcroft Wansbroughs
- The Courts Service of England & Wales
- HM Inland Revenue

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