



Press Release

DM – The next generation

Legal Week; December 5, 2002

www.legalweek.net

Are the days of locally based Document Management and Collaboration over? Are these applications soon going to be labeled “The Legacy System”? Implementing Document Management, and/or Collaboration in-house has considerable impacts on time, resource and budget. There is no doubt that the scale and cost of full implementations has been a major barrier to entry for many small to medium law practices.

There is a new trend emerging with the introduction of virtual Document Management and Collaboration solutions by “Application Service Providers”, thus this whole IS area can be outsourced to a data centre and provisioned in a virtual manner, therefore massively reducing the cost of overall investment. The future is clearly in the web hosting solutions, enabling organisations, regardless of their size, to benefit from the same available technologies that bigger firms have been utilising, without the burden of heavy investment.

One such provider is www.NetDocuments.com who markets themselves as “a Web service for business designed to optimise document distribution, collection and collaboration over the Web.” Designed for both the larger and smaller organisation the NetDocuments solution offers most of the “out of the box” DM/Collaboration functionality of traditional vendors whilst the “virtual” nature of the solution means that business continuity and availability are built into the data centre supporting the solution.

In theory what they are offering is generally what is required by almost any firms that have a Document Sharing or Collaboration requirements. However, this as yet has to be proven in practice, as though most law firms generically follow the same process and procedures, no two firms are the same. These types of solutions are still at their infancy and would probably only cater at the very generic level. However, it definitely should not be dismissed. The advantages are obvious, the ability to practice DM/Collaboration from any Web Access point, if you can outsource other services then why not DM or Collaboration.

About imus

imus is an independent London based management consultancy and technology organization, specializing in Intellectual Asset Management. **The comprehensive management of knowledge within an organisation is our core business.** With a clear grasp of the challenges faced by organisations today, imus is able to provide all the services required to help our customers manage and retain their intellectual capital by delivering and deploying a Knowledge Based Solution successfully.

Contacts

imus Ltd

Parkshot House
5 Kew Road
Richmond
Surrey TW9 2PR
t 020 83348039
enquiries@imus.co.uk
www.imus.co.uk

