

# GUNDERSON DETTMER

Gunderson Dettmer Lowers E-Discovery Costs and Performs Faster Early Case Assessments with Clearwell E-Discovery Platform

## GUNDERSON DETTMER

ATTORNEYS AT LAW

### CHALLENGES

- Hundreds of hours spent manually finding elusive documents, and even more time spent analyzing the results
- Lack of confidence that all relevant documents have been discovered
- Case assessments performed very late in the litigation process
- Decisions to pursue litigation or settle out of court made with very little data

### SOLUTION

- Clearwell E-Discovery Platform for document processing, analysis, and review

### BENEFITS

- 75 percent reduction in e-discovery costs
- Early case assessments performed in days vs. weeks
- Better decision-making avoided millions of dollars in unnecessary legal and settlement costs

*“The Clearwell E-Discovery Platform delivered an impressive ROI, providing a deeper level of analysis that helps us quickly and accurately discover relevant documents with significantly fewer resources.”*

Scott Dettmer, Partner

### OVERVIEW

Gunderson Dettmer is the preeminent supplier of legal services focused on Corporate/Securities, Technology/Intellectual Property, Executive Compensation/Employment, and Tax. The firm is constantly on the lookout for ways to lower costs and mitigate risk for its clients.

### BUSINESS CHALLENGES

Conducting an electronic discovery is a routine but dreaded procedure for most general counsels at large enterprises and law firms, including Gunderson Dettmer. Eric Rosenberg, Director of Information Technology, is usually one of the first to receive this type of request. On average, Rosenberg and his team respond to 5-10 e-discovery requests every month, each one requiring several hours of work. “Electronic discovery requests are by far the most daunting tasks that I face on a regular basis. Every time we get one, I know my team will be spending an enormous amount of time tied to our servers manually searching for an elusive group of documents, and even more time analyzing the results after we’ve found the right information,” Rosenberg said.

The challenge of quickly and easily accessing specific documents affected another critical area of business for Gunderson Dettmer’s clients: early

case assessments. Early case assessment is one of the most critical areas of the legal process. Strategic decisions are needed immediately due to the short turnaround times for going to court or settling a case, and steep financial implications of making the wrong decision. Time is of the essence, and decisions are typically made based on very little information or by relying on personal experiences with similar cases.

Rosenberg struggled to find an effective solution to more efficiently address these discovery responses and automate Gunderson Dettmer’s manual and time-consuming discovery and analysis processes. “General purpose archiving products didn’t provide the legal-specific capabilities we needed, and fell far short of providing any usable level of analysis,” Rosenberg said.

*“By using Clearwell to process and analyze the documents, we were able to quickly determine the right strategy for this case, saving us significant costs, time, and mindshare.”*

Eric Rosenberg, Director of Information Technology

#### CLEARWELL SOLUTION

As a tech-savvy law firm with first-hand exposure to some of the world’s hottest emerging technologies, Dettmer, a founding partner of the firm, and Rosenberg were dually impressed by the Clearwell E-Discovery Platform. Their opinion was unanimous, “Clearwell’s solution is extremely powerful and effective.”

During a stringent four-month evaluation of the solution, Dettmer and Rosenberg had an opportunity to test drive the technology in a real-world scenario and try to develop an early case assessment for a case in which the firm was involved. Working up against a tight deadline with 48 hours to respond, Dettmer and Rosenberg split up and each conducted their own discovery and analysis. Dettmer used keyword search tools, while Rosenberg turned to the Clearwell E-Discovery Platform. The differences in the results were amazing. Dettmer’s search took a sum total of eight hours and the results looked like a tangled web of haphazard documents. Rosenberg’s search took only three minutes. He found twice as many related documents, and they were intelligently

organized by discussion threads with visual representations of relationships between events, time and individuals. Clearwell showed messages in their proper context, displayed unexpected conversations between people and suggested related keywords to uncover additional relevant messages.

“By using Clearwell to process and analyze the documents, we were able to quickly determine the right strategy for this case, saving us significant costs, time, and mindshare,” Rosenberg said.

Unlike yesterday’s simple search tools that index and provide keyword search capability for documents, Clearwell analyzes the content and metadata of electronically stored information (ESI) and combines it with organizational data to dynamically derive communication patterns. Clearwell then applies proprietary, patent-pending linguistic and statistical analysis algorithms to further analyze the documents. This is done for all collected case documents, but can also be performed across all Exchange servers, PST/NSF files and archives.

The Clearwell E-Discovery Platform accomplishes all of this without creating a separate information store, moving mailboxes, or installing software on any of Gunderson Dettmer’s desktops and servers, making it very easy to maintain and operate.

#### BUSINESS BENEFITS

The time and cost savings that Clearwell enabled Gunderson Dettmer to achieve has substantially streamlined and improved the firm’s ability to process, analyze, and review ESI and more rapidly respond to subpoena requests. The Clearwell E-Discovery Platform provided Gunderson Dettmer with the following benefits:

- Dramatic reduction in electronic discovery costs
- Ability to perform e-discovery in minutes instead of days
- Optimize case strategy decisions, avoiding millions of dollars in unnecessary legal and settlement costs
- Early case assessments performed 80 percent faster

#### ABOUT CLEARWELL SYSTEMS

Clearwell Systems, a leader in Intelligent E-Discovery, is transforming the way enterprises conduct e-discovery in response to litigation, regulatory inquiries, and corporate investigations. By automating the processing, analysis and review of electronically stored information, Clearwell enables enterprises to accelerate early case assessments, lower processing costs, reduce review workload, and gain control of e-discovery. Leading corporations, law firms, government agencies, and legal service providers have reduced e-discovery costs by as much as 80 percent within days of their deployments.

To learn how Clearwell can deliver value to your organization, contact an e-discovery expert at: [info@clearwellsystems.com](mailto:info@clearwellsystems.com), or call us at: 877.727.9909.



#### Clearwell Systems, Inc.

441 Logue Avenue, Mountain View, CA 94043

650.526.0600 tel | 650.526.0699 fax | [www.clearwellsystems.com](http://www.clearwellsystems.com)