

Early Case Assessment and Analytics Tool Drives Down Discovery Time and Costs

In matters where strategy is undetermined and the litigation budget is tight, Ontrack® Advanceview™ provides an early window into your case, saving time and money.

The Situation

A Top 200 law firm engaged Kroll Ontrack for a Fortune 100 corporation client matter concerning a large Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) investigation. The complexity of the case required the law firm and its client to have early visibility into the data before processing. The firm had a general idea of the time frames giving rise to the investigation, but needed to isolate specific communications and people involved in the incident.

The Solution

Ontrack Advanceview, Kroll Ontrack's early case assessment tool, allowed the legal team to meet these challenges right out of the starting block.

The law firm sent Kroll Ontrack 45 gigabytes of data – more than a quarter of a million documents – to be loaded into Ontrack Advanceview for early case assessment. A small group of attorneys began running complex searches, seeking to drill down on precise time frames and involved individuals. They also narrowed the document set using field specificity, such as e-mails sent to or from particular individuals. Topic grouping, concept searching, e-mail threading and near-duplication technology was also used to reveal common themes. Last, the team leveraged the analytics features in Ontrack Advanceview to reveal peaks and valleys in volumes of e-mail traffic, common e-mail subjects and the e-mail traffic between custodians.

Within a few days, the original 45 gigabytes of data were narrowed down to 13 gigabytes (approximately 50,000 documents) for processing and review in Ontrack® Inview™. As a result, the client saved more than 50 percent on its processing and review costs. The 13 gigabytes were loaded into an Ontrack Inview review database, and the review team was assembled to determine which documents to produce to the SEC. Given the previous early case assessment work performed in Ontrack Advanceview, the review lasted several days instead of several weeks. Most importantly, the Fortune 100 corporation utilized an industry-leading early case assessment platform and proven online review tool, avoiding the trouble of hosting the data itself, purchasing specialized software, assembling hardware or incurring licensing fees.

The Resolution

The best way to reduce data before processing and review is through early case assessment. With Ontrack Advanceview, this client took control of the case, corralled the costs and performed discovery in a defensible manner by:

- » Rapidly navigating through more than 250,000 e-mails and documents to get a better sense of case strategy early on
- » Reducing discovery processing costs by more than 50 percent
- » Decreasing the time spent on manual review of the documents by several weeks