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Discovery Easy Enough for Cavemen (and Simplicity-Seeking Lawyers)

By Dennis Kennedy

Those instant classic television commercials about car insurance so easy to apply for even a caveman can do it have me wondering what else cavemen might find easy enough to understand in today's world. Discovery? Probably not, but LexisNexis Concordance has taken great strides in that direction with the new version of its flagship discovery program — Concordance 2007.

Designed for lawyers, Concordance 2007 sports a “completely revised, highly intuitive interface” that produces faster data access, improved document searching, and streamlined e-discovery features. The new release also integrates online Lexis.com research and a “send to” function to share your discovery data with other litigation and e-discovery software tools, including LexisNexis's Total Litigator and CaseMap. You can use Concordance 2007 from your desktop, laptop, or the Web.

Concordance 2007 focuses on simplifying the discovery process while providing enormous data capacity. The new interface helps you better navigate and organize documents, and should result in reduced training time for busy lawyers and paralegals. The Import Wizard can quickly import email and attachments in their native format. You can import and manage up to half a terabyte of data and thirty-three million records in each database. Need flexibility? Concordance allows 250 customizable fields for each record and up to 12 MB of data (approximately four copies of War and Peace) in each field.

Concordance's Simple Search technology easily locates key phrases and documents for non-technical reviewers. More advanced users can make use

of Boolean, fuzzy, wild card, relational, and concept searches. The Synonym Builder enables you to search less-than-perfect OCR documents. Once you find a term, you can highlight it, send it to Total Litigator, and perform research using your Lexis.com account. You can save and re-run searches on up to 128 databases at once. Other search tools help you search on related concepts and find duplicate documents.

Concordance 2007 also provides you with a rich set of review, analysis, and collaboration tools. You can use multi-level folders, add your own tags, and set up public and private folders to simplify document review and manage cases. New organizational management tools provide helpful statistics such as who reviewed a particular set of documents. You can also bulk send entire document sets from Concordance to CaseMap to help you analyze, manage, and strategize your cases.

Other notable features include transcript management, a wide variety of flexible reporting tools, and programmability for advanced users. Concordance also offers state of the art security. You can try Concordance 2007 for free for 30 days. Learn more about Concordance 2007: http://concordance.lexisnexus.com/pub/Concordance2007_Product-Sheet.pdf

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