



Your Criminal Practice and The Cloud...



Stuart Miller Solicitors is a prime example of an old established practice that has literally had life blown into it through energetic management and initiatives undertaken by a young enthusiastic partnership.

Having selected DPS Crime as their preferred legal software package they later embraced a DPSCloud hosted solution as the future of their IT strategy. They soon found this one-stop-shop legal IT solution saved them a considerable amount of time and money and this is how...

CASE STUDY

STUARTMILLER
Solicitors

THE SOFTWARE

Searching for a comprehensive and user-friendly criminal law software package the management at Stuart Miller identified DPS Crime as the ideal system for handling their criminal caseload. Amongst the features that helped convince them of this are:

Automatic case costing and tracking with all records carried forward to produce CDS6, CDS7 and Crown Court bills or private bills where the case is not CDS listed.

All CDS forms are **fully integrated and are completed automatically at the touch of a button.** This includes the CDS6 form which can then be uploaded directly to the LSC website **saving hours of manual input.**

Flexible and fully-amendable system with a library of precedents provided.

The system includes **automated case progression** meaning that chaser emails or future tasks are automatically created to ensure a case is progressed.

Microsoft Outlook integration provides a **familiar working environment** for users, integrates their emails and their case files and allows **instant communication with contacts on the file.**

THE PRIVATE CLOUD

They made the progressive decision to implement a private cloud model with outsourced IT and software. All the IT is managed externally and they have procedures to manage the service that they are receiving from their outsource company. This initiative has set them free from the internal daily issues of running IT, at the same time giving them strong disaster recovery and business continuity capabilities which could only have been matched by an on-premise solution at great expense.

THE BENEFITS

The additional benefits mean that they now have more time to 'run' the practice and focus on internal procedures and develop innovative practice management techniques which is refreshing to see in any business but especially when applied to the legal practice. As previously mentioned, they have customised their software to fit their internal procedures then merged these with the outsourced IT to provide them with a solution that is agile and able to meet changing market requirements. Staff members want to work at Stuart Miller because this side of their work is handled so well. Their thorough approach to deploying the correct IT infrastructure is mirrored in their continual strengthening of internal procedures.

All of this has resulted in the firm recently receiving a coveted 'Highly Commended' accolade at the Law Society Excellence Awards 2011 in the Lexcel Award for Excellence in Practice Management category. Stuart Miller began working towards Lexcel in 2009 and they were commended for increasing the size of their firm by 300% and enhancing profits by 400%.

Director Majid Habib comments:

"Without DPS we would certainly have had a far more difficult time achieving what we have and we were particularly grateful for the work DPS undertook with us during the process of gaining our Lexcel accreditation."



The team from Stuart Miller receive their Highly Commended award in the Excellence in Practice Management category at the 2011 Law Society Excellence Awards.

"DPS Crime provided us with the platform we needed to both increase efficiency and implement initiatives that helped the firm work in the way we wanted it to work. Taking our IT hosted through DPSCloud then made complete business sense as we implemented a cost-effective and robust IT infrastructure which carries none of the hassle that maintaining on-premise IT brings with it."

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As one of the largest firms in North London Stuart Miller Solicitors have specialised in defending complex and often high profile cases since 1984.

DPS Crime is used by many of the UK's leading criminal law firms including:



Lewis Nedas & CO
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