

# An AM Law 50 Firm Pilots IQ Review™ to Identify Responsive Documents Earlier

As data volumes increase and deadlines to produce documents remain tight, legal teams engaged in litigation, regulatory, or compliance matters are required to deliver more, faster, and on a smaller budget. Lawyers must balance these factors while ensuring a defensible document review and production.

A key driving factor for increasing costs is that many review teams default to a conventional linear review, which assigns equal value to every document in a data set. However, all documents are not of equal importance to a matter. In fact, over 80% of documents in a review are typically non-responsive, having little to no significance.

The inefficiencies involved in a linear review can be resolved by leveraging technology that enables lawyers to focus their time and resources on those documents that are actually important to the case.

Epiq Systems' IQ Review™, a combination of new technology and smart procedures, addresses the challenge of rapidly locating the documents that are responsive to a matter. IQ Review™ ranks documents by responsiveness, prioritising those that are most responsive for immediate evaluation. Legal teams can now find important documents faster and reduce costs, while achieving a defensible review.

An AM Law 50 firm chose to pilot Epiq's IQ Review™ to assess how the technology could benefit its clients.

This case study examines the results.

## THE PILOT

IQ Review's™ prioritisation technology was the focus of the pilot. It was tested under controlled conditions and compared to a human-based, conventional review, evaluating three criteria: accuracy, speed, and the effect on review time and budget. Identical document sets were used to test each approach.

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### **The Conventional Review**

The data collection consisted of approximately 75,000 documents and excluded duplicate documents.

Using traditional linear review methodology, the review team completed review of the full document population in approximately 9 weeks. Without a comprehensive system in place to prioritise each document, responsive documents were identified as they appeared throughout the review—essentially at random.

### **The Prioritised Review**

After completion of the human review, the same set of 75,000 documents was submitted to Epiq Systems for the IQ Review™ pilot.

IQ Review™ uses prioritisation technology to assess and rank the responsiveness of documents.

One senior case expert was appointed to train the prioritisation software. Having no prior exposure to the software, the expert was trained in less than 15 minutes and was then ready to proceed.

### **Training The Software**

The expert reviewed and coded each document in a batch of 50 as responsive or not responsive. During this exercise, the expert was teaching the software his thought process for coding. When the first batch was completed, a new set of 50 documents was presented to the expert to evaluate. This process continued until the software was stabilised. Stabilisation occurs when the software is able to predict the expert's decisions.

Once the software stabilised, it assessed the entire document population and scored the responsiveness of each document.

## **THE RESULTS**

### **Speed**

The software stabilised after 18 hours, over the course of 3 days. The expert reviewed and coded 25 sets of 50 documents, or 1250 documents, less than 2% of the total document population.

After learning from the expert, the software then assessed and ranked the full document population in under an hour.

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A direct comparison of the total time spent locating responsive documents shows the prioritisation approach took under 20 hours to complete, while the human-based review took over 9 weeks.

### **Accuracy**

An analysis was undertaken to determine the accuracy of the prioritised review against the conventional review. The software-enabled review and the human review team were in agreement on over 91% of the decisions.

To investigate the 9% of documents that were coded differently, we shared a statistically drawn sample of these documents with the expert. To ensure neutrality, we did not give details on the inconsistencies, just that they were coded differently. The expert made the final rule as to whether the document was responsive or not.

Of the sample documents presented, the expert ruled that the prioritisation technology was correct over 77% of the time.

### **Minimise Wasted Time and Expense Reviewing Non-Responsive Documents**

In this collection, only 10% of the documents were responsive to the case (based on both the human and prioritised review). By identifying the responsive documents before review begins and sending them to the review team first, legal teams can avoid spending valuable time and money sorting through material that has no importance to the case, and direct their focus to documents that actually matter.

IQ Review™ empowers legal teams to better manage time and money. Senior experts can focus on documents most responsive to the matter earlier while junior reviewers can handle the remaining population. Client money can be spent more effectively from the outset of a case, with less spent on irrelevant material.

### **Understand the Matter Earlier**

Involving a case expert upfront to prioritise a small portion of documents is the fastest way to meaningfully shape the landscape for the full review. IQ Review™ workflow enables documents to be presented to the review team in order of their prioritisation rating. Reviewers can access those documents more likely to be responsive to the case earlier, and the legal team can make critical decisions on case strategy faster.

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## **Improve Consistency and Increase Quality Control**

IQ Review™ enables a consistent approach to be applied throughout the review. The differing opinions, varying levels of experience, haste and fatigue that can pervade a human review team under pressure have no impact on technology.

## **Conclusion**

Combining the right technology with the right expertise can significantly increase the consistency and speed of a review. IQ Review™ enables attorneys to gain a better understanding of data earlier to make more informed decisions. Legal teams can spend less time and money on non-productive portions of review and focus their expertise and resources on the most responsive material.

To find out more about IQ Review™ and prioritisation technology, visit [www.iqreview.epiqsystems.co.uk](http://www.iqreview.epiqsystems.co.uk) or call Epiq Systems on a number below.



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