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Review: Anacomp's CaseLogistix 5.2

By Timothy Piganelli

Anacomp's CaseLogistix 5.2

www.anacomp.com/caselogistix

TechnoScore: 4.5

1 = Lowest Possible Score; 5 = Highest Possible Score

INTRODUCTION

Ever since I met the original owners of CaseLogistix two years ago, I have been impressed by the features and functionality of this product. Since Anacomp has obtained this tool, it has climbed even further up the ladder in popularity and functionality as a solution provider to its clients.

After installing the software, I decided to load sample data on it and, with some assistance, began running it through the gamut of tests to see how the "latest and greatest" of Version 5.2 adds up.

Among the many things CaseLogistix does well, the one thing that definitely stands out is the document review in a native format.

To begin with, the software's general view looks and feels like Microsoft Outlook, which would make the transition easy for any Microsoft Office user. Whether you are using the desktop version or the online Web hosting services, CaseLogistix uses the same graphic user interface (GUI). Thus, an end user in any of these environments doesn't have to learn a new interface.

Like other litigation support systems, it runs on a SQL or SQL Express back end making the total "horsepower" significantly better. This is important in large cases where the total number of documents can get up to hundreds of thousands and even millions. It also makes the tools to search and retrieve

very competitive since search speeds are increased over non-SQL applications.

The downfall is that in addition to installing this application, you need to purchase and install SQL (or get the free Microsoft SQL Express) before you can run CaseLogistix.

Anacomp prices CaseLogistix by number of users in both the Desktop and Web-based environments.

DOCUMENT REVIEW

Among the many things CaseLogistix does well, the one thing that definitely stands out is the document review in a native format. It's what Anacomp calls a "True Native Review Platform." I loaded in a variety of documents, such as emails and attachments, PDF, MSG, and regular TIFF files. I also examined the sample case materials that come with the software upon installation. It truly is what I consider a real Native Review tool with an excellent interface and smooth review process.

In addition, it is very easy to customize your review process by specifying which areas you want to analyze. For example, if you want to set up a quick and easy way for an attorney to review for responsive or privilege, you can set up a box that can be checked for each as the review takes place. Thus, the user wouldn't have to key in any words, just simply click to check the box. Additionally whether the documents to be reviewed were in native, near native, or TIFF image format, you can move with ease from document to document.

While reviewing documents you can apply actual redactions to any of the file formats including native

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using the “Mark Up On Demand” tool. This converts whatever image or native file you are viewing into an actual PDF markup, enabling you to add notes or apply the redactions as needed. By clicking on the Dashboard view, CaseLogistix renders the document dynamically to a format that you can annotate. Yet, the original Native or HTML format remains untouched. This viewer has the ability to view documents in a variety of native formats even if you don't own that viewer.

UNICODE

Although I don't claim to speak many languages, arguably CaseLogistix has very good Unicode capability. The Unicode tools in CaseLogistix make working with documents in foreign languages very easy. It handles foreign language documents, their fielded data, text, and even metadata. It enables you to run searches in all of these areas in the perspective foreign language. Search results on the text of a document, regardless of any language, will highlight the hits in the images or native view of the document.

One of the most unique features of CaseLogistix is the Prompted Search feature. This tool makes searching for the novice user a breeze.

SEARCHING FOR DOCUMENTS

CaseLogistix has all the standard searching capabilities as other competing software, but has some unique features built in. You can customize searches for a variety of fields in the database as well as the full text of a document. The customization of certain searches did take some training to set up. As noted above, results of the full text searches highlights the actual search word in the text of the document (including the image or PDF version of a document) giving the end user an exact location of the search results or hit.

A feature that I found very impressive is the Persistent Key Highlighting feature. This enables administrators to color code certain words so a reviewer can

see key words or phrases in any of the document's text. These words or phrases are always color coded whether you are searching for them or not. Thus if you are reviewing a document and you encounter a key word, you will see the word(s) or phrases color coded.

PROMPTED SEARCH

One of the most unique features of CaseLogistix is the Prompted Search feature which resides in the Saved Search area as part of the IntelliFolder section. This tool makes searching for the novice user a breeze. When you click on a Prompted search from the Searches area (either Saved or Shared), a prompt will appear asking the user to key in a specific search criterion, such as Author as shown.

You can even pre-program the search to prompt multiple times for a specific search. Once you click on a search you may get multiple prompts to key in items such as the author's name, associated text, and a data range, making it easy for the novice user to run complicated or Boolean searches.

ANCHORED NOTE

To replace the “mountain” of post-it notes and hard copy highlights, CaseLogistix has a few tools that automate these tasks. First, you can add notes to any document you want with the click of a mouse. You can add notes to a specific paragraph of any document by selecting the paragraph in the document itself, then add a note to that paragraph. This is called an “anchored note.” You also have the ability to create hyperlinks from any portion of a document to a variety of case elements (images, transcripts, etc.)

Once notes are added to a document or a paragraph, you can then review the notes about that document. By clicking on the notes CaseLogistix will navigate to the exact paragraph portion of the document that contains the linked note.

INTELLIFOLDERS

IntelliFolders are folders that give the user a huge amount of flexibility and customization to a case and the way a case is organized.

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More than just folders, IntelliFolders enable you to establish rules that will organize documents based on a set of instructions. In this manner documents will be “dynamically” placed into these folders as they are loaded. For example you might set a rule that automatically breaks up documents by type (or format). Thus if you load in 1000 electronic documents, the IntelliFolder system will read the metadata and create a subfolder according to each type that it finds. It then categorizes each document into the proper folder.

In addition, if you drag and drop documents in a confidentiality folder with multiple subfolder layers and you drop the list into the deepest level, say the fifth level of confidentiality, CaseLogistix will automatically code the document inclusive of all five levels. In essence it is autocoding documents based on click and drag.

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Furthermore, you could set a rule that would take Outlook email messages and break those up into subfolders as to who the email is from. The IntelliFolder uses the metadata to group documents according to these rules you set. If you wanted to know all folders a document is contained in, simply click on a tool in the tool bar and it will show all of the folders where a particular document resides.

TRANSCRIPT MANAGEMENT

CaseLogistix has a transcript manager that can perform the basic tasks. Like others, this tool can search among single and multiple transcripts and link exhibits to the transcript via the notes feature. The notes feature can attach notes to portions of the transcript. It will also enable you to add issues to a note, but a user must manually type in the notes one at a time. This note feature enables you to link exhibits to the note so that a user can see exhibits attached to notes referenced in a transcript.

One limitation of their transcript manager is that you cannot directly navigate to a page and line within a transcript.

Additionally CaseLogistix has the ability, through the Dashboard, to link directly to a Web-based transcript manager, such as LiveNote's Web-based solution. This will run directly in a CaseLogistix window giving the user that tool's functionality.

EDISCOVERY LOADING AND VIEWING

Like many of the other software applications, CaseLogistix doesn't claim to be an eDiscovery processor. They want to make it clear that you should have your large data processed by an eDiscovery vendor before inputting into any application. Yet for smaller batches, say emails, it will handle and enable you to load and view your email set. When I loaded a sample of my emails into the application, I found it to be very user friendly in loading in the email and assigning document numbers.

CaseLogistix is meant to give the user a “quick shot view” of their eDiscovery. Particular with emails and their attachments. One way to bring in an email is to simply drag and drop the PST file into CaseLogistix. Here it will extract the email, its metadata, the attachments and even fully expand any attachment out such as a zip file containing multiple files within. Each attachment file will link back to the original email. The same email capability works with Unicode emails, i.e. those in a foreign language.

PRODUCTION AND PUBLICATIONS

No doubt that CaseLogistix's IndyGo Publisher is a very powerful and versatile tool. Although lacking in power to do a large production, it does handle medium to smaller productions in many ways. The title “Publisher” is used due to the fact that it does more than just produce. For example it can also generate reports, data sets for CD's or DVD's with links back to electronic documents, and a variety of other options.

Here you can set up the production title, where you want to save the production, the type of media you want to store the production on, the maximum size for CD or DVD duplication (with span sets to avoid shuffling discs), and choose a new production num-

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bering scheme for the bates or document ID for that production. It will enable you to produce documents in a variety of formats, tiff; single page or multi, PDF; single or multi, color, etc.

What I like is that you can specify the naming convention of the electronically produced file names when you produce out a set. In addition, you can have the production sent back into the case library so that the documents you produced go back into the main case in a specified folder enabling someone to view the production history. It also saves the template of your production so that you can use the same settings over again.

When you create an electronic production, the results are a set of files that you can easily duplicate on a CD or DVD. All the files can be transferred or burned to a desired media, giving the recipient a disc that will immediately begin to run and show a list of all your documents produced with hyperlinks to the associated files in their native or original format. Thus the recipient doesn't need to have a copy of CaseLogistix or any other litigation support system to view this production.

ONLINE WEB BASED SOLUTIONS

Although I did not get a chance to use Anacomp's online service which uses the CaseLogistix interface, I do feel it's worth mentioning some of the features I learned about. One of my biggest complaints about online and Web-based document repositories is the ability for an end user to print documents out for whatever reason. With documents located in another location, (i.e. the service provider's server location) printing documents has been troublesome.

Anacomp uses a Citrix environment unlike most Web-based solutions enabling users to have a variety of Microsoft functions such as drag and drop. It also creates a "virtual printer" enabling you to use your local printer settings so that you can tag documents and send them to print much faster and with ease as compared to other applications.

CONCLUSION

Overall this tool has to be one of the top choices for document review with its native file review capability. Attorneys and law firms that have an in-house IT or litigation support staff to handle the SQL application would find CaseLogistix useful and very workable.

My top three features are the Document Native Review tool, the IntelliFolders and their functionality, and the prompted search feature.

I would like to see more work done on the transcript manager giving this powerful tool a more competitive edge. Being a "die hard" trial consultant, I would love to see it integrate with one of the trial presentation software packages or better yet see it develop as a trial presentation solution itself.

Overall, I give CaseLogistix a Technoscore of 4.5 out of 5.0.

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