



Leader in law firm technology continues to implement market leading Laserform

Berwin Leighton Paisner, a full service top 15 City of London law firm, has used Advanced's Laserform electronic forms for over 13 years. Julie Jakings, System Support Manager at the practice, explains how electronic forms have developed alongside the firm.

Berwin Leighton Paisner is a leader in law firm technology and the IT department has won a number of awards including the Managing Partners' Forum award for innovation in technology, e-LOTIES for the biggest contribution to online legal technology, Legal IT Forum (IT team of the year and best implementation of a CRM system), the BCS IT director of the year and Chambers' UK law firm of the year award.

The practice employs approximately 1,300 people with over 650 lawyers, including 170 partners. They have offices in London, Brussels, Paris and Singapore with an alliance office in New York. Clients include FTSE 100 companies and financial institutions, major multinationals, the public sector, entrepreneurial private businesses and individuals.

Business Challenge

Julie Jakings explains the importance of technology and of selecting software providers to the forward-thinking Berwin Leighton Paisner.

Julie comments: *"We are passionate about embracing technology and providing our team and our clients with the very best service and we constantly research the technology available in the marketplace. Maintaining our strong reputation is key to our ongoing success. It's important to our colleagues and clients that we use efficient working practices as standard across the firm."*

Solution

The implementation of electronic legal forms is now standard practice within the legal profession, but, in the 1980s, when the software was relatively new to the market, Berwin Leighton Paisner was one of the first law firms to research and install an electronic forms system.

Julie adds: *"Berwin Leighton Paisner was one of the first UK firms to look at using electronic forms at a time when many were suspicious that they would save time and money. True, the earliest forms were very basic and the technical support was somewhat sketchy in the early years but we knew that it would make a massive difference to the way we worked."*

Client >

Berwin Leighton
Painser

Sector >

Legal

Project >

Implementation of
Laserform

"We are passionate about embracing technology and providing our team and our clients with the very best service."

Julie Jenkins > Systems
support manager > Berwin
Leighton Painser

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Back in the 1980s, electronic forms were a new field of legal technology and nobody really had a dominant market position. However, Laserform is now firmly entrenched in the psyche of most firms. Today, nearly a thousand users at Berwin Leighton Paisner use electronic forms supplied by Advanced's Laserform."

Benefits Achieved

The sophisticated functionality of the Advanced's Laserform system leads to multiple benefits. Your users can complete forms quickly, accurately and with minimal risk — saving you valuable fee earner time, and allowing your firm to ultimately become more efficient and profitable.

Additionally, the complementary support and advanced information services give you the peace of mind that forms are up to date and legally accurate, with an experienced customer care and technical help team only a phone call away.

Julie concludes: *"Our investment in those early years in legal technology laid much of the groundwork for today's infrastructure. Over time*

it becomes quickly clear which kinds of technology are able to survive at a commercial law firm. It's telling that we've stuck with Laserform.

The ability to build templates for forms in standard text is a major benefit for us and is a big time saver. The expandable fields within the forms are also very easy to use.

A massive frustration for firms who still use paper documents is the frequency with which legal forms have been updated over the past few years. Being able to update a library of forms instantly is a major advantage over paper forms and it's hard to imagine functioning without electronic forms these days.

Law firms always strive for perfection. We continually push our IT suppliers to improve their offerings. We take an active role in a number of working parties endorsed by the Legal Software Suppliers Association (LSSA) to ensure that we are feeding our comments back to the legal technology providers and that we are steering towards better and more sophisticated products. Advanced's Laserform has always been receptive to enhancement requests and exploring with us suggestions to improve their forms package."

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Julie Jenkins > Systems support manager > Berwin Leighton Paisner

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