How a law firm stepped into the Cloud



Moving to iManage Cloud gave this leading Scottish law firm a fully featured, cost-effective DMS

Challenge

Stronachs LLP is one of the largest independently managed law firms in the North and North East of Scotland with offices in Aberdeen and Inverness. They were working from an over-stretched document management system spread across two different platforms; the first, a standard windows file system operating as a basic document store and the second, an outgoing practice management system that housed the rest.

The set-up was creating a raft of inefficiencies fuelled by what Ken Roberts, IT manager at Stronachs, describes as "increasingly messy file sharing" which was proving time costly not only for Ken as the sole IT administrator for 85 people but also Stronachs' lawyers. He needed a complete DMS which could house everything, reduce his already challenged time resources and help the firm to become more efficient overall.

Stronachs identified a prime opportunity to improve by combining the installation with their then-upcoming physical office move; Ken states that "the move was a great opportunity to address our data concerns and encourage our lawyers to deal with the paper they had been holding onto for a while." Ken had been interested in iManage as a potential solution for a long period of time beforehand, but had not been made aware that the Cloud was a viable option as well.

Solution

The team at iManage directed Stronachs to Tiger Eye due to their long track record of running similar implementations in the past; the firm was looking to engage a team with tried and tested expertise who could impart best practise advice tailored to their requirements. Tiger Eye consulted with Stronachs in person to ensure that the solutions demonstrated were the best fit for the firm, including suggesting iManage Cloud; it was of immediate

Challenges

- Limited time resource internally
- Data spread across different systems and two offices
- A deadline dictated by a physical office move

Solution

- One repository from which to file, access, edit and search documents
- A full iManage Cloud implementation
- Close consultation to provide advice and impart best practice

Results

- A reliable, cost-effective fully managed and supported system
- Remote access across web and mobile devices
- Integration with the existing PMS
- Implemented quickly and smoothly in time for Stronach's move deadline



Stronachs

Background: Stronachs LLP

Stronachs LLP is recognised as having in-depth sector knowledge and legal expertise rivalling any of the larger, national and international firms in areas including oil and gas, corporate finance, employment law, dispute resolution, private client and the real estate sector.

Access to the most suitable technology available has always been prioritised by the Board, ensuring the firm can organise, collaborate and share securely all aspects of communication and project documentation, to the benefit of clients and staff.



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Below: Ken Roberts, IT Manager, Stronachs Right: Stronach's new location in Aberdeen interest to Ken, who states "as soon as I knew it was an option for us, I wanted to research it completely".

Tiger Eye delivered a complete integration from the existing PMS (Envision) and File Store onto a platform which was then migrated successfully to the iManage Cloud. Stronachs had indicated a preference to keep the installation as simple as possible and the system easy to use, saving more granular customisations for the future. "The process was great," says Ken. "Tiger Eye handled everything smoothly." With the bulk of work achieved off-site in good time before the upgrade, Stronachs not only upgraded their data systems but also successfully handled an office move in one fell swoop.

Results

The core benefit of the Cloud was crystal clear to Stronachs; the marked cost saving compared to an on-premise solution. "Our on-premise equivalent with an upfront infrastructure cost would have worked out as substantially more expensive than the iManage Cloud solution" says Ken. "The choice was obvious." With access to a huge bulk of iManage features in which the iManage infrastructure is maintained and backed up by the iManage Cloud team themselves including a promised 99.9% system availability rate - it also removed a large part of cost and time outlay on Ken's part. He can now focus on more integral priorities for the firm without upgrades or scheduled weekend work.

I would recommend Tiger Eye, no problem

Ken Roberts, IT Manager, Stronachs

Now Stronachs works with a much tidier set of shared data which is fully integrated into their Envision PMS. iManage Cloud allows their lawyers access at all hours from the web or mobile to core documents, wherever they work from. The firm admits that it is "still learning" what the full capabilities of the system are, but they are looking at utilising iManage Share in the very near future. Ken comments, "Tiger Eye always point you in the right direction and give you the exact support you need. The TEC support desk team have been great in responding to our questions". "You judge a company not just by their service but by how they provide that service in challenging scenarios. Tiger Eye handled it well and kept things smooth."

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