

EOS Case Study:

Dinsmore & Shohl, LLP



Dinsmore & Shohl LLP is a full-service law firm with more than 250 attorneys practicing in seven offices. For the past 96 years Dinsmore & Shohl has provided a broad range of integrated services to meet the needs of both large and small businesses as well as institutions, associations, governments, professional firms and individuals. The firm has been named one of the best corporate law firms in America in an annual survey of corporate directors conducted by Corporate Board Member magazine.

“EOS made our implementation very simple.... I would definitely recommend EOS.Web to other libraries.”

Cynthia Whitt-Covalcine
Dinsmore & Shohl
Library Director

Today, Dinsmore & Shohl continues to work with a base of long-standing clients engaged in varied industries including banking, biotechnology, coal, communications, construction, consumer goods, education, health care, high tech, manufacturing, pharmaceuticals, real estate development, retail, transportation and utilities.

Dinsmore & Shohl offers counsel in the following areas of law: business and corporate, bankruptcy, employee benefits, environmental, family wealth planning, first amendment and media, general commercial and specialty litigation, intellectual property, international, labor and employment, mass tort and medical litigation, real estate and commercial finance. At Dinsmore & Shohl, clients are first in every element of its full-service practice. This commitment has steadily driven the firm's growth throughout the 20th century and promises to sustain its continued success into the future.

Solution Overview

Challenge: When the law library at Dinsmore & Shohl decided to replace their SQL system from SydneyPlus they began a search for a new legal library automation solution. There were two distinct requirements:

Requirement #1: Librarians wanted a Web OPAC that allowed attorneys, librarians, and other legal staff to find materials easily.

Requirement #2: They wanted a good means of tracking their purchases and subscriptions so that they could track and project costs in specific subject areas and for specific vendors.

Solution #1: EOS.Web OPAC

Library staff has been very impressed with the ease of use of the EOS.Web OPAC. Now attorneys in remote offices can search the catalog to see if another office has the resource they are looking for, something they couldn't do before.

Solution #2: EOS.Web Cataloging

EOS.Web Cataloging has helped Dinsmore & Shohl to evaluate their operations and make positive changes. Now they quickly recognize duplicate material order requests and easily promote sharing of materials between different offices, which has also reduced costs.

Multi-office EOS.Web Implementation Improves Library Service

On any given day at Dinsmore & Shohl, library staff can be found providing research, document delivery, and interlibrary loan services to office locations in Cincinnati, Dayton, Columbus, Lexington, Louisville, Charleston, and Pittsburgh, in addition to maintaining their collection. Dinsmore & Shohl library staff rely on EOS.Web to help them deliver the important, up-to-date information that their attorneys and support staff rely on to meet their client's needs. The release of the WebOPAC has definitely increased the library's visibility in the firm.

When Dinsmore & Shohl selected EOS.Web for their legal library automation and knowledge management solution, they were replacing a SQL system from SydneyPlus, and ease of implementation was a requirement.

"EOS made our implementation very simple. First we had a pre-implementation notebook which helped us make good choices for the conversion of our existing data. Next came the test conversion and we were able to see if we liked how the data looked," states Cynthia Whitt-Covalcine, Dinsmore & Shohl Library Director. "Then came the real conversion, which went smoothly. Our EOS implementation team was a wonderful resource and helped make this a smooth transition."

In fact, the Dinsmore & Shohl library had a great success story with their OPAC before it was officially released. Their MIS department had added the link to their intranet page for library staff to review. An attorney in one of the other offices found the OPAC link, looked up what he wanted and called the library to say that the book he wanted was in one of their other offices and how could he borrow it. Library staff was very impressed! The attorney didn't even know the catalog was there but managed to use it to find the information he needed!

Easily customizable EOS.Web OPAC evolves into the library's Intranet portal

"The EOS.Web OPAC is the library intranet for the firm. It is so easy to customize the EOS.Web OPAC and to add links to some of our services," states Ms. Whitt-Covalcine. "Attorneys and other legal staff use it to help satisfy their research needs."

EOS.Web OPAC gives attorneys the ability to locate the library's latest print and electronic materials from their desktops. This ease of access

has promoted interoffice sharing of print titles and increased use of electronic resources.

Flexible EOS.Web Serials Helps to Reduce Costs

The EOS.Web Serials module provides a way for libraries to easily define serials receipt patterns, along with issue dating and numbering, allowing for a great deal of flexibility in setting up serials for checkin. Plus, if you have a serial with multiple supplements, supplements and indexes can be linked to one bibliographic record and still have separate checkin patterns for each supplement and index. A monograph can even be put under serials control without having to change it to a serials format - this is due to the database being structured with bibliographic, copy, and item record levels.

"Publishers frequently send us renewal notices on titles we cancelled many years ago. EOS.Web has helped us identify these lapsed publications so that we don't accidentally renew," states Ms. Whitt-Covalcine. "In helping us recognize duplicate requests for materials and promoting sharing of materials between our different offices, it has also reduced costs."



About Ms. Whitt-Covalcine

Cynthia Whitt-Covalcine is Library Director for Dinsmore & Shohl. Prior to joining the firm, she was manager of a large regional branch library for the Public Library of Cincinnati and Hamilton County.

Cynthia is a member of the American Association of Law Libraries, Ohio Regional Association of Law Libraries, and the Special Libraries Association. She is Chair of the Nominating Committee of Cincinnati Chapter of SLA and Chair of the Legal Research and Information Resources of the Cincinnati Bar Association. She received her MLS from Kent State University.

"The EOS.Web OPAC has definitely increased the perceived value of our library and helped us to improve library services."

Cynthia Whitt-Covalcine
Dinsmore & Shohl
Library Director

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