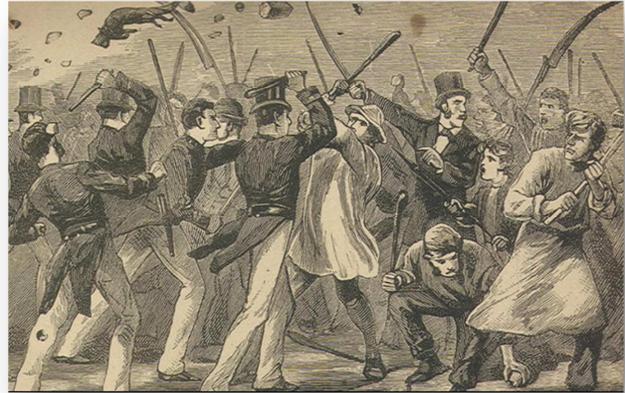# The Pitchforks Are Coming For Your DMS

By Kevin Harrang

When I wrote [The 5 Myths of Document Management](#), I politely suggested that the current crop of DMS products was unlikely to be very useful for lawyers. After all, lawyers are busy people, and getting around to manually tagging and uploading all their email and documents into a central DMS is bound to be, well… hit and miss.

But I was wrong.

It's not that lawyers lack the time to use their firm's DMS. They **hate** their DMS. And I mean they **really** hate it.

What's to Like?

It's not hard to see why. Busy lawyers are asked not only to re-save all work they created on their PC or laptop to a second central location, but they're told that they must also carefully fill out a document profile for each file. Who has time for that?

And if the point of a DMS is to be a central repository of a firm or organization's knowledge, nobody uses it for that. At best, it's a partial collection that is perpetually three to six months out of date. And because there are always lots of other places where documents might be, not finding something you're looking for proves nothing, except perhaps that you should continue searching elsewhere. Why waste time with that?

Cyber Disobedience

Ask lawyers about their DMS and you're bound to get an earful.

- At one prominent US law firm, lawyers hated their DMS so much that they stopped using it and began saving their documents to a cloud-based solution. When their IT group found this out, they shut down access to the cloud product, until the lawyers found that they could use the open Wi-Fi connection in the lobby for clients. They actually preferred walking into the lobby to using the firm-mandated DMS.

- Others have told us that they regularly use their Gmail or Hotmail accounts to store their documents, even though they're supposed to put everything in the DMS.

- A recent survey of the largest UK law firms found that the most common document tag—supposedly the key data in a DMS – was "0000." To force users into profiling documents, these fields are usually made mandatory, but users have no patience for this, and find that typing anything works just as well.

- GCs have told us that it's easier for their lawyers to find sample documents on the Internet than inside their department. This is after spending considerable dollars and time developing the original documents with their outside law firms.

The User Is Actually Right

It's no wonder that people are fed up. Outside their firms and organizations, lawyers experience incredible software all the time: they find things on the Internet with Google, they order stuff from Amazon, buy airline tickets on Expedia, and talk to Siri on their iPhones. And yet none of this is the result of the kind of top-down, Dewey Decimal-like organization that people seem to think is necessary when it comes to a DMS.

Why isn't organizing documents in an organization just as easy?

A New and Better Way

This is exactly the question we asked ourselves. And so we created MetaJure. MetaJure is the first Smart Document Management System, fully automated to put an end to manual tagging and uploading.

What MetaJure does:

- ✓ Captures 100% of the information in your firm, not the 50% typical of current DMS products
- ✓ Automatically profiles and tags all of your documents and emails
- ✓ Provides an easy Google-like search experience that allows for filtering and advanced searching
- ✓ Requires no data conversion, and works seamlessly with traditional DMS systems like Worldox, NetDocuments and others to supplement or replace them
- ✓ Copies and stores documents and emails that reside on vulnerable locations like laptops and individual PCs

In short, MetaJure offers an easy and reliable way of saving, indexing and finding all of your firm's knowledge.

What Can an Automated Document Management System Do for You?

DMS automation has significant benefits.

- ✓ Automation eliminates the need for lawyers to be their own "document and email file clerks"
- ✓ Finding documents and emails is fast and easy thanks to powerful, state-of-the-art algorithms
- ✓ With access to 100% of their documents and emails, lawyers can quickly fulfill record retention and retrieval obligations and avoid associated ethics complaints and malpractice claims

See for yourself how MetaJure works:

- Watch this 90-second video about MetaJure
- Schedule a personalized demo of MetaJure today

Contact us to learn more: Tel: 206.812.8750 │ sales@metajure.com

But don't wait: the pitchforks are coming for your DMS!

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