

Lighthouse Key Document Identification Proves Pivotal to Antitrust Defense

CASE STUDY



LIGHTHOUSE

Lighthouse Key Document Identification (KDI) team leveraged linguistic expertise and cutting-edge analytics to efficiently locate only the documents that mattered in a complicated, year-long antitrust criminal investigation and trial.

What they needed

Senior executives from a global food manufacturing company faced federal criminal antitrust charges related to allegations of 15 instances of price fixing over a five-year period. A joint defense team comprised of outside counsel representing each of the executives was assembled by the company.

The prosecution expected to make rolling productions of evidence up to and through the trial. As those productions rolled in, the joint defense team could tell that many of the evidentiary documents, timelines, and conversations that were key to the prosecution's case were taken out of context or failed to include all the exculpatory evidence. However, the joint defense team was having trouble finding key evidence because much of the nuance was located within piecemeal chat conversations and complex bid spreadsheets that were buried among millions of similar documents.

The joint defense team needed a document search team that was nimble and could quickly identify the most important documents to the defense and share them across the team. They came to Lighthouse because they knew our Key Document Identification (KDI) search service could quickly identify key documents with accuracy and nuance.

How we did it

The Lighthouse KDI team first organized a central search desk, where all members of the joint defense team could go for document search requests, with results shared across three defense teams.

Next, the KDI team located the most important documents related to each of the 15 episodes of price-fixing allegations, on a priority basis. They used linguistic expertise to create narrow searches, taking into consideration the nuance of acronyms, slang, and terminology used within the company and the food manufacturing industry. They also leveraged Lighthouse's proprietary, cutting-edge search analytic tools to look for key information buried in hundreds of thousands of Excel spreadsheets and chat messages.

As the government produced more documents, the KDI team refreshed their searches, looking for key documents in each new production and quickly sharing results across the defense team.

As defense preparations continued throughout the year, KDI supported all aspects of trial preparation, including two mock trials, all witness preparation binders, and the James hearing. Lighthouse KDI support will continue through the criminal trial for the senior executives, due to KDI's proven success in supporting ad hoc search requests and providing results in real time.

16M+

TOTAL ORIGINAL
DOCUMENTS



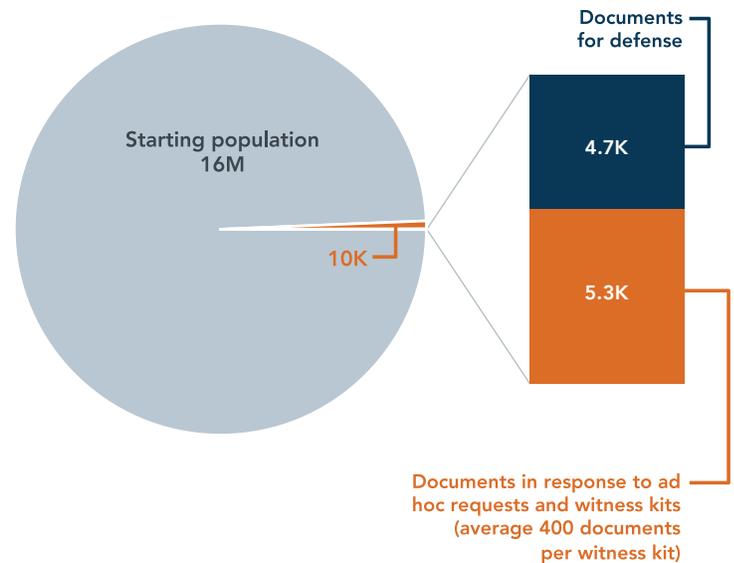
10K

TOTAL KEY DOCUMENTS
DELIVERED FOR
DEFENSE PREPARATION

The results

The KDI team has efficiently delivered incredibly accurate results, saving the underlying client more than \$3M thus far. Out of an always-in-flux review population that eventually grew to over 16M documents, KDI was able to cull through the irrelevant data to find and deliver only the most important documents for the defense team's utilization. In the end, that amounted to less than 1% of the initial review population, including:

- 4.7K documents for the joint defense group to defend the episodes of alleged price fixing
- 5.3K documents for defense team specific ad hoc and witness kit requests (an average of 400 documents per witness kit)



In comparison, a traditional linear review using search terms and conventional analytics performed by multiple case teams typically results in 5-20% of the data population being tagged as "key documents." This volume would then be funneled to the case teams for review as well, where they would waste valuable time and resources looking at hundreds of thousands of irrelevant or run-of-the business documents.

In addition to cost-efficiency, the KDI team has gained expertise in the key events, timelines, and context of conversations buried within the data. As such, the team is now a critical resource to the defense, supporting all stages of the investigation and assisting in pivot ad hoc requests. Examples include finding a unique pricing document buried among volumes of near duplicates, as well as the relevant context surrounding a single line of a chat message.

In the end, the efficiency KDI provided saved the underlying company significant time and money that could not have been achieved otherwise. Additionally, KDI's expertise in the data was a critical resource to the joint defense team, which relied on KDI at each step of trial preparation. KDI expert support will continue throughout the criminal trial.



About Lighthouse

For 25 years, Lighthouse has provided innovative software and services to manage the increasingly complex landscape of enterprise data for compliance and legal teams. Lighthouse leads by developing proprietary technology that integrates with industry-leading third-party software, automating workflows, and creating an easy-to-use, end-to-end platform. Lighthouse also delivers unique proprietary applications and advisory services that are highly valuable for large, complex matters, and a new SaaS platform designed for in-house teams. Whether reacting to incidents like litigation or governmental investigations, or designing programs to proactively minimize the potential for future incidents, Lighthouse partners with multinational industry leaders, top global law firms, and the world's leading software provider as a channel partner.

Contact us to find out what Lighthouse can do for your business.

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