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CASE STUDY

INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY LAW

Albihns

CHALLENGE

- Very paper-intensive workflow for patent and intellectual property cases
- Time-consuming manual process for scanning and transferring paper documents into case handling application

STRATEGY

- Installed Canon digital copiers with eCopy ShareScan
- eCopy Connector for Patrawin for the case handling application

RESULTS

- Substantial time/cost savings – cutting four minutes for each document scanned
- Return on investment within six months • Increased user satisfaction
- eCopy Desktop provides additional features for PDF document generation

ABOUT ALBIHNS

Founded in 1891, AlbiHns is a leading firm specialised in European intellectual property rights. AlbiHns are authorised patent, trademark and design agents, and they have on many occasions been top-ranked in surveys of patent and trademark/copyright firms in Sweden. AlbiHns have also been selected as a “Superbrand” – one of the 300 strongest Swedish Business-to-Business brands. AlbiHns have around 200 employees, including 80 solicitors in the fields of technology and law. The firm has offices in Stockholm, Göteborg, Malmö, Linköping, Copenhagen, and Munich.

“The eCopy solution enables us to scan paper documents directly into our case handling application. This used to be a much more time-consuming process involving two steps. We expect the investment to pay for itself in six months, while also making our users happier.”

— Anders Eskilsson
IT Manager
Albihns

ALBIHNS MAKES ALL DOCUMENTATION FOR ITS IP PROJECTS AND CASES...

available electronically. The main tool to achieve this is the Patrawin case handling application. Multi-functional digital copiers are used for scanning paper documents into the application. Using standard office equipment, this process requires two steps: scanning into a common network folder, and then, from the user's workstation, transferring the scanned document file manually to the application, organising data based on client and project identity. At AlbiHns' Stockholm office, about 150 such scans are performed daily, a task which has been considered a burdensome duty for the staff.

Albihns Case Study

“Our administrative staff are very happy with the new scanning solution, which eliminates tasks that were considered tedious and unproductive.”

— **Anders Eskilsson**
IT Manager
Albihns

IN LATE 2007, ALBIHNS INVESTED IN NEW OFFICE EQUIPMENT FOR...

its three major offices in Sweden. A total of 15 Canon multifunction copiers were purchased and installed by Canon's business partner XL Office, including eCopy ShareScan. Upon request, the application software vendor developed an eCopy Connector for the Patrawin case handling solution. The connector application provides a custom-designed interface for the copier screens which allows Albihns to enter project-related information into Patrawin directly at the point of scanning. This way, scanned documents are now transferred directly into the application in just one step.

The eCopy solution has been implemented at the firm's three offices in Sweden. In addition, the additional features offered by eCopy Desktop are quite useful for Albihns, e.g. simple PDF document generation that is now available to many users. According to Anders Eskilsson, IT manager at Albihns, a possible extension of the scanning solution could include the firm's intranet. For this purpose, eCopy's support for the Microsoft SharePoint Server deployed in the intranet is an attractive feature.

PRIOR TO DEPLOYMENT, ALBIHNS TESTED THE ECOPY SOLUTION...

under realistic conditions to find out if it was workable and productive. The tests ran successfully, and indicated a time saving of four minutes for each document scanned. This translates to ten hours of administrative work for each office day, which means that return on investment is achieved within six months – and that is just counting Albihns' Stockholm office.

“For an IT manager used to complex projects that require a lot of effort over an extended period of time, this was a very simple and productive implementation”

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