

REWRITING THE RULES OF THE GAME: A LANDMARK TECHNOLOGY DISPUTE

£50M+
CLAIM

FTSE 100 X
FORTUNE 500

INDUSTRY FIRST
APPROACH

In this landmark case, our client, a FTSE 100 company, faced a software licensing dispute with a Fortune 500 technology group - and we needed to think laterally.

Things came to a head when the opposing side sought full disclosure of every single document relating to recent IT projects. Bringing to the court huge volumes of records, including highly complex R&D, would have taken several servers and roomfuls of reference material. Not to mention a staggering amount of management time and legal fees - in the region of £1m-£2m. Instead, we developed an imaginative alternative that would bring clarity and cut costs.

We switched the angle of attack and pioneered an industry first - fighting this software licensing case from an Intellectual Property law perspective. Pooling knowledge from Counsel, industry experts and our UK-wide Dispute, IT, and IP legal teams, we applied IP law techniques to an IT licensing claim and distilled all the documents relating to the client's IT system down into a single 'product process description', combining principles of patent and copyright.

This transformative approach to disclosure was hugely efficient and, ultimately, highly effective. In this legal battle between two major, global organisations, our client was able to settle the case confidentially and save millions on the claim, including legal expenses, time, and risk. Plus, we've established a new way of working, bringing clarity to this complex area. All in all, a patent success.



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