

CUSTOMER STORY: Dentons Rodyk & Davidson LLP











Dentons Rodyk & Davidson LLP ('Dentons Rodyk') is one of Singapore's Big 5 Law Firms with a team of approximately 200 lawyers offering clients a full suite of legal services necessary to do business locally and globally. Their association with global law firm Dentons also makes them part of the world's largest law firm with 20,000 professionals in over 200 locations in more than 80 countries.

Besides being one of Singapore's biggest law firms, Dentons Rodyk is also the first and oldest. Last year, they celebrated the firm's 160th anniversary through a fundraising campaign and raised more than \$120,000 for the Singapore Association of Women Lawyers Scholarship Fund.

Engaging and supporting their communities through charitable contributions, social and pro bono work is an important part of the work they do at Dentons Rodyk. The firm was one of only four law firms to be awarded recognition as Champions of Good in 2022. This award is presented to organisations that are exemplary in doing good and have also been a multiplier by engaging their partners and stakeholders on a collaborative journey.

LEGAL EXPERTISE

The Dentons Rodyk litigation and dispute resolution department has at least three strengths.

First, they have practice groups that specialise in different areas of law. For example, there are practice groups that focus on medical malpractice, international arbitration, shipping, aviation and so on. These practice groups are headed by senior partners who have accumulated years of experience, and built a niche, in each subject matter. With such an arrangement, they are not only able to service their clients well in any potential dispute regardless of the area of law, but they are also able to quickly identify and assign the most experienced and competent team in that area of law to handle that dispute.

Second, they work closely with their other departments that are also highly ranked in leading legal publications such as the Corporate Real Estate, Corporate Finance, or Tax departments. These close working relationships between the departments allows the team to provide a seamless and synergistic experience to their clients.

Third, there is a significant focus in the department on developing the new generation of lawyers. The litigation and dispute resolution department provides their younger lawyers with as many opportunities as possible, such as the chance to argue contested applications or lead cases in Court to hone their advocacy skills. They also provide regular training to younger lawyers in case management, language and communication skills, and business development techniques.

ON DIGITAL TRANSFORMATION: WHERE ARE THEY NOW AND WHAT'S NEXT?

Dentons Rodyk was able to pivot quickly to remote working as the firm already had the relevant infrastructure and technology in place pre-pandemic.

Each of their lawyers had laptops equipped with security measures such as a Virtual Private Network that allowed uninterrupted, secure access to internal files, virtual meeting tools, and most importantly, a digital library complete with books covering every area of law.

The above can be attributed to the firm's forward thinking and the firm has, in fact, been one of the first adopters of a fully hybrid work model. This balanced their staff's requests for continued flexibility, and the need to stay physically connected with one another for integration and camaraderie. Dentons Rodyk was featured in several The Straits Times and The Business Times news articles for being one of the first big law firms in Singapore to embrace the future of work.

For legal research, the firm utilises both digital libraries, as well as online legal search engines for both local and international case reports. The convenience of having a variety of legal technology solutions at one's fingertips is unmistakeable. For example, Terence Wah, Partner at Dentons Rodyk, has his own personal e-book copies via mobile applications, including LexRead, allowing him to access materials on the go, and answers to novel legal issues can always be located easily and quickly.

To the team at Dentons Rodyk, adopting legal technology is important, as it helps reduce the time needed for some tasks. Digital copies of books, for example, expedite research, as a user can perform quick keyword searches across the whole book. By comparison, the same task on a physical copy requires a manual search on the physical index, which would be more laborious and sometimes even incomplete.



WHY LEXIS ADVANCE® & LEXREAD™?

While digital transformation was undoubtedly accelerated as a result of the pandemic, Dentons Rodyk has always been a strong proponent of legal technology solutions, as it results in greater efficiency and accuracy.

Lexis Advance presented a clear advantage especially in this instance, as it provides users with the ability to search through up-to-date cases from jurisdictions across the globe through a single search engine, any time, anywhere.

The team at Dentons Rodyk is confident that the integration of textbooks into a search engine, on the LexRead platform, and the large collection of overseas cases in the Lexis Advance platform, has allowed them to be more comprehensive in their legal research than ever before.

AT A GLANCE

Dentons Rodyk continues to turn to Lexis Advance® & LexReadTM for three key reasons:

- 1. The **integration** of a number of leading textbooks within a search engine on LexRead designed especially for legal professionals;
- 2. The **extensive collection** of international case reports, from Hong Kong to the Caribbean on Lexis Advance: and
- 3. The availability of alternative leading law reports on Lexis Advance, allowing their lawyers to consult material in addition to the neutral citation reports.

Lexis Advance & LexRead and the complete suite of time-saving features also completely eliminates the need for lugging heavy hardcopies of bound books a truly welcome reprieve.

"Lexis Advance® & LexRead TM have allowed us to be more comprehensive in our legal research than ever before."