

STUDY: WESTLAW NEXT IS MEASURABLY FASTER THAN WESTLAW

Westlaw® versus WestlawNext™ – March 15, 2010



Research that takes almost 11 minutes using Westlaw ...



... takes less than 4 minutes using WestlawNext.
That's a productivity gain of 64%!

RESEARCH TIME¹

PROJECT ²	WESTLAW	WESTLAW NEXT	TIME SAVINGS
1	10 min. 28 sec.	3 min. 30 sec.	66%
2	11 min. 30 sec.	4 min. 50 sec.	58%
3	12 min. 35 sec.	3 min. 19 sec.	74%
4	10 min. 18 sec.	4 min. 43 sec.	54%
5	9 min. 26 sec.	3 min. 8 sec.	67%
Average	10 min. 51 sec.	3 min. 55 sec.	64%

Parallel Performance of Westlaw and WestlawNext

This study compared the performance of identical legal research assignments using both Westlaw (via westlaw.com) and WestlawNext online legal research services.

WestlawNext proved to be more efficient on all five of the research projects. **On average, WestlawNext researchers were 64% more efficient in completing their tasks than Westlaw researchers.**

¹Based on average time required per research project.

²See research methodology on back for details.

Please see reverse side for research methodology.



Research Methodology

Overview

The Online Research Product Comparison Study was commissioned by Thomson Reuters and conducted in early 2010 by Legal Research Center (LRC). The study involved parallel performance of identical legal research assignments using both Westlaw (via westlaw.com) and WestlawNext online legal research services.

The study involved five discrete research projects, each performed by 50 attorneys using Westlaw and 50 attorneys using WestlawNext.

Selecting Research Projects

LRC – which has done research projects for attorneys, law firms, corporations, and governmental entities across the country since 1978 – reviewed real-life legal issues from its proprietary knowledge base of more than 20,000 individual legal discussions.

Research experts then crafted narrowly focused legal issues based on that review, including issues that related to corporate, government, and private-practice work. These issues were designed to be answerable with one relevant authority, and were tested on a control group to ensure the issues were appropriate for a comparison study.

Sample Research Projects (Issues)

1. In which case did the Supreme Court of New York's First Department Appellate Division uphold personal jurisdiction over a prominent British musician under CPLR 301 because his hiring of New York attorneys and accountants constituted doing business in the state?

Answer: ABKO Indus., Inc. v. Lennon, 52 A.D.2d 435, 384 N.Y.S.2d 781 (1st Dep't 1976)

2. Is a foreign corporation with only one employee in West Virginia an "employing unit" subject to unemployment compensation laws?

Answer: W. Va. Code § 21A-1A-14

Selecting Research Attorneys

LRC selected participants from established staff, each of whom had established his or her online-research proficiency and had received a 60-minute training session in the use of WestlawNext. Each attorney had graduated from an accredited law school and had at least two years of post-law-school legal experience – with an average of more than 10 years of experience.

Timing the Work

Researchers were asked to accurately record (a) the online time required to complete the research, (b) the databases searched, (c) the time required to record the relevant citation, and (d) the total time required. Researchers were not allowed to use reference attorneys or any other form of research assistance.

Evaluating Results

For each issue, research specialists at LRC prepared an answer key identifying the one citation that directly answered the research question. By comparing search results to the master keys, research managers evaluated search results for accuracy. Then the times required to perform the research were compared.

Results may vary. We encourage users to try WestlawNext to see how much time they could save.

Some exclusions apply. Additionally, certain content may be accessible only on Westlaw. Content subject to change. Contact your West Representative for plan details.

Visit WestlawNext.com

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