The Electronic Discovery Institute Begins the Initial Phase of the EDI Oracle Study

Washington, DC – January 8, 2013

The non-profit Electronic Discovery Institute ("EDI") announced today that EDI has officially begun the initial phase of the long anticipated EDI Oracle Study. Oracle’s litigation team along with chief scientists Peter Glynn and Gerd Infanger from Stanford University have partnered with EDI in its mission to evaluate multiple human and technology-assisted analysis systems for responding to discovery in litigation.

The study has secured dozens of participants, half of which received the official study data set and training materials on January 3rd, 2013. The goal of the study is to obtain an unbiased assessment of technology to help the legal community navigate the computer assisted review process. EDI is currently accepting responses from both linear human review providers and computer assisted review providers.

According to professor Glynn, Chair of Stanford’s Department of Management Science and Engineering, “As a scientist, it is intriguing to see the interplay of law, technology, and statistics in the American legal process. I feel the scientific community will be just as interested in these data as those in the legal community”. Professor Infanger, a consulting professor at Stanford University, also noted that “Developing a protocol that was statistically defensible was our primary goal. We look forward to evaluating the participants when all the results are in.”

The study will provide independently reviewed metrics on the quality and costs of various technology assisted review solutions compared to manual review. The results of the study could potentially speed up the acceptance of technology assisted review methodologies by courts and by corporations. According to Patrick Oot, “This sort of research is what started the non-profit in its quest for technology education in the legal sector. It has taken almost two years for the Oracle-EDI team to find the right scientists, participants, and protocol to make this incredibly complicated undertaking a success.”

EDI’s co-founder, Herbert Roitblat stated, “I think that this is a really exciting and important study. I am very much looking forward to seeing the results. The legal community needs more education on this topic and this study will provide that. OrcaTec is not participating in this study to avoid any potential conflicts with my leadership role in EDI. We do think, though, that it is a critical study, which complements TREC, one that deserves the attention of the whole legal community.”

Robert Owen, EDI’s newly appointed President, stated “As EDI's new president and a litigator with over 35 years of experience in dealing with complex discovery issues, I am confident that this and other research will help identify not just one, but a variety of methods that litigants can use to respond to an adversary’s discovery requests.”

Pallab Chakraborty, Oracle’s Director of eDiscovery, stated, “The study is receiving major attention from both the judiciary and legal industry. I am happy that Oracle has been able to participate in this great thought-leading opportunity”.

According to Danielle Carey, EDI’s Director of Event Marketing, “The Oracle Study team has delivered the first wave of drives to the first twenty participants that have completed the administrative process to obtain the data. We anticipate another shipment within the next few days when more staff at providers return from holiday leave.” Ms. Carey continued, “Although the initial phase has already begun, we highly encourage other providers to join the study. The first training session, scheduled for January 11th, 2013, will be recorded and will be available to participants who decide to join later in the month.”

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About The Electronic Discovery Institute

The Electronic Discovery Institute (http://www.eDiscoveryInstitute.org) is a 501(c)(3) non-profit research and educational organization. Focused originally on the electronic discovery process in litigation, the Electronic Discovery Institute has expanded its scope to include all technologies and processes that intersect in some way with law. EDI’s reports and articles are available for download from EDI’s website free of charge.

Mr. Chakraborty, Prof. Glynn, and Prof. Infanger, Mr. Owen, Mr. Oot, Dr. Roitblat, and Ms. Carey are available for interview upon request.

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