

2008 VISIONARY AWARD

SMB Visionary



RODYK & DAVIDSON LLP

Gilbert Leong

Career Highlights

- Currently hold position of IT Resources Partner at Rodyk & Davidson LLP
- Served in various positions of growing responsibility and scope at Rodyk & Davidson LLP, Baan Company, and GE Medical Systems
- Extensive experience negotiating and drafting commercial agreements in the area of technology products and services

Education

- LLM (merit), University College London
- LLB (honors), National University of Singapore
- Certificate in Computer Programming and Information Processing, City & Guilds of London Institute

Awards/Recognition

- Legal Who's Who in Singapore 2003 for Information Technology, *Asian Legal Business*
- Who's Who Legal: Singapore 2008 for Regulatory Compliance
- Leading Lawyer 2008 for IT, Telecommunications & Media, *asialaw*

Legal Tech Trends to Watch

- Collection, analysis, and use of "non-traditional" personal information such as bio-metrics by governments will "spill over" into the private sector (affecting rules and regulations)

Data contained in email and documents is the lifeblood for a legal services firm, particularly one with multiple offices covering various practice areas. Dealing with the complexity of increasing volumes of data typically presents daunting challenges. However, for Singapore-based Rodyk & Davidson LLP, the mountainous archiving and e-discovery challenges typically associated with the volumes of data created by email and myriad document types was seen as an opportunity, at least by IT Resources Partner and SMB 2008 Visionary Gilbert Leong.

Leong, who possesses a broad background in technology issues, intellectual property rights, and electronic commerce, as well as a certificate in computer programming and information processing, partnered with the firm's IT manager, Alvin Aw, to identify and deploy a comprehensive email and document archiving and e-discovery solution based on Symantec Enterprise Vault software, including Microsoft Exchange Archiving, Microsoft Exchange Journaling, and Discovery Accelerator. The two of them turned to Symantec Partner CHASSAsia, along with Symantec Consulting Services, for implementation assistance. The solution provides archiving and e-discovery of the firm's Microsoft Exchange environment and will eventually—later this year—include integration with Interwoven WorkSite containing up to 50 different file types.

The results of Leong's and Aw's efforts are impressive. The backup window for Microsoft Exchange was slashed 50 percent, from 10 hours to 5 hours. Single-instance archiving helped Rodyk & Davidson to reduce its email storage requirements by approximately 40 percent, producing an immediate storage allocation savings of approximately \$4,000.¹ And with an email storage growth rate of 100 percent annually, this equates to storage cost avoidance of approximately \$15,000 over the next three years. Finally, the IT team received an average of two discovery requests monthly, each of which would take approximately 12 hours to fulfill. Now, with Discovery Accelerator, end users are able to perform their own discoveries, saving nearly 300 hours in IT staff time annually or more than \$20,000 in labor productivity over a three-year period.²

¹ The estimated cost per gigabyte of storage is assumed to be \$45 USD.

² The average net mean salary is assumed to be \$24 USD.

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