

## Manufacturing companies: discovery management services

Product liability and patent claims are constant challenges for manufacturers. Litigation brings electronic discovery requests with demands that stretch far beyond product specifications to involve hundreds of custodians, multiple venues and terabytes of data.

### Product liability and intellectual property

Manufacturers face constant pressure from many types of product liability claims. As manufacturing processes globalize and diversify, assessing and managing electronically stored information (ESI) becomes increasingly complex. Product liability litigation often involves multiple and varied venues, fast-changing schedules, and widely distributed custodians and data. Intellectual property matters also consume significant resources for manufacturers. As the volume of patent litigation grows, companies must control costs while preserving valuable IP assets.

### Electronically stored information in the production cycle

With distributed supply chains and production processes, proprietary information systems, and varied data retention processes, manufacturers are hard-pressed to manage even well-structured design and test data. E-mails, loose files and collaboration systems add to the complexity. Firm control over ESI created at every stage of the workflow, from design to distribution, can be critical to defending a product or patent claim.

### Addressing manufacturing litigation

Fios helps manufacturers effectively manage litigation activity with both litigation readiness and litigation response services. Our expert e-discovery guides tailor a clear, consistent process and technical infrastructure to manage all aspects of e-discovery with deep expertise in meeting manufacturing legal teams' need for efficiency, consistency and repeatability. Fios has the capacity and throughput to process enormous volumes of data quickly, putting time on our clients' side. We also offer active matter consulting in all areas related to e-discovery—from identifying, preserving and collecting data to production, processing and review.

### Case study sidebar: litigation planning and readiness

A large, global manufacturing and chemicals company hired Fios to assess its readiness to address future product liability, employment and regulatory claims. The company sought to determine the effectiveness of its electronic discovery protocols. At the request of the general counsel, Fios examined the overall effectiveness of the company's discovery and response practices, its data retention policies, gaps between its current systems and future requirements mandated by Federal Rules of Civil Procedure, and the need for enterprise-wide electronically stored information identification and management technology. Through collaboration with the corporate legal and records management departments, Fios developed recommendations, including creation of a detailed data collection policy and improved litigation hold procedures. Fios provided both intermediate and long-term solutions to streamline processes, lower discovery costs and avoid unnecessary risk.

## Manufacturing companies: discovery management services (continued)

### Preparing for e-discovery

Fios brings a seasoned perspective to e-discovery readiness. Our experienced consultants deliver customized assessment, planning and implementation services, which are based on the people, processes and technologies required for mitigating risks, improving efficiencies and reducing e-discovery costs. Over thousands of complex cases, we've helped clients transform downstream vulnerabilities into strategic advantages through rigorous e-discovery preparation. As a result, clients are able to leverage the strategic advantages of readiness and position themselves for demonstrating defensible, good faith e-discovery with opposing parties, the government and the courts.

### Responding to e-discovery

Fios guides clients through all phases of electronic discovery—from identification, preservation and collection through processing, review and production. We offer the most robust review services, data processing capacity, advanced technology, project management support and reporting capabilities for successfully managing the complexities of e-discovery. Fios' services can be customized to meet the demands and technical requirements of any complex e-discovery matter.

---

Fios, Inc.  
921 SW Washington Street  
8th Floor  
Portland, Oregon 97205  
(503) 265-0700  
(877) 700-3467 Toll Free  
[www.fiosinc.com](http://www.fiosinc.com)

#### **About Fios, Inc.**

For over a decade, Fios has helped corporations and their outside counsel reduce risk, control costs and gain management control over the entire spectrum of e-discovery. We are dedicated exclusively to delivering comprehensive services and expert guidance that transform the burdensome nature of electronic discovery into a streamlined, legally defensible business process.

