



SolcaraSolSearch
Connecting information
with integrated search

D&W
DUNDAS & WILSON

Solcara's SolSearch delivers simple and targeted searching of internal and external legal resources for Dundas & Wilson

Dundas & Wilson is a UK law firm with offices in London, Edinburgh and Glasgow. The firm's four hundred lawyers work across two jurisdictions, four sectors and nineteen specialisms to meet clients' UK wide objectives.

"SolSearch has provided a seamless search across our internal and external knowledge resources which we can target with precision for each practice area."

Caroline Andresier, Director of Knowledge & Professional Support

The Dundas & Wilson Knowledge Portal was first implemented in 2007 and the system was widely used and greatly appreciated. In early 2009 Dundas & Wilson sought to review the existing system with the aim of:

- ▶ Integrating searching across internal resources and those external resources which the firm subscribed to – Practical Law Company (PLC), Lexis Library and Westlaw UK
- ▶ Providing a practice area specific search via the Knowledge Portal so that searching, both internally and externally, could be targeted to the most relevant information
- ▶ Improving the user experience of the system – reducing the number of clicks required, improving the look and feel of the system, and introducing the highly flexible "collections" facility
- ▶ Auditing usage of the Knowledge Portal and the external resources so that the time and efforts of the professional support team could be more focused.

The screenshot displays the D&W Knowledge Portal interface. At the top, it shows the D&W logo and the title 'D&W Knowledge Portal'. Below the navigation bar, the search results are organized into sections based on the source. The first section is 'Precedents - Internal' with 5 of 12 results. The second section is 'PLC Practice Notes' with 5 of 50 results. The third section is 'LNB Hill & Redman' with 2 of 2 results. The search terms are 'surrender' and 'Find All Words'. The results list includes items like 'Agreement for Lease conditional upon vacant possession with landlord's works (England)', 'Business tenancies - procedures for surrenders and agreements to ...', and 'Hill & Redman's Law of Landlord & Tenant Bulletin (32 hits)'. The interface also includes a 'SELECT SOURCES' sidebar with checkboxes for 'Internal' and 'External', and a 'SEARCH TERMS' section with a search box and a 'SEARCH' button.

Solcara, in conjunction with Dundas & Wilson, analysed these requirements and proposed a solution that would utilise Solcara's SolSearch to better accomplish these objectives.

By implementing SolSearch, the improvements to the Knowledge Portal have achieved all that Dundas & Wilson set out to do with the review project. **John Craske, Head of Business IT** at Dundas & Wilson reports that *"Within three months of deploying SolSearch and the redesigned Knowledge Portal across all of our practice areas, the firm has seen searches across its external legal research resources double - meeting a key aim of the project to get better use of these resources."*

About Solcara SolSearch

Solcara SolSearch is an essential tool for any organisation, such as Dundas & Wilson, that needs easy and efficient access to information that resides in multiple locations, databases and formats.

SolSearch connects to target resources and searches the existing indexes in real time. This ensures results are consistent and up to date every time you search. Searchable resources include the following:

- ▶ Online subscription services
- ▶ Free internet resources and search engines
- ▶ Document management, library and know how solutions
- ▶ Intranets and file systems
- ▶ Lotus Notes, SQL Server and other searchable databases

Solcara SolSearch is the leading integrated search solution and is used by more than twenty two innovative law firms in the UK, Channel Islands and Ireland. These firms are now able to organise and profile necessary internal and online resources so that searches are automatically targeted to the appropriate resources .

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