

Case study

Makino Law Office

»Reducing administrative work means we can spend more time discussing trial strategies and improving our service to provide successful outcomes for our clients.«

Jiro Makino, Lawyer, Makino Law Office



The customer

Mr. Jiro Makino is an "IT Lawyer" at the Makino Law Office in Tokyo. He is the first lawyer in Japan to start legal consultations through the Internet in 1995 by opening an Internet Lawyer Consulting firm. Now he practices civil litigation mainly for IT firms. He is a member of the Internet Association Japan and the Committee on Document Magnetic Record. He has published several professional papers on "Core of the Google Problem", and "Concerning the management of documents in the era of internal control", as well as other topics.

The iX500 is great for quickly sharing verdict documents

Mr. Makino has integrated the use of ScanSnap scanners into his practice. The iX500 has strengths that facilitate processes in the legal industry. It is particularly helpful to share and store verdict documents from civil litigation.

"The obtained verdict document needs to be copied immediately, passed out to clients, and prepared for the enforcement. The iX500 scans many documents rapidly, so the scanned data can be shared by e-mail with the appropriate parties within minutes."

A verdict document is a stapled booklet, and he scans it at once with the iX500 after carefully taking out the staples.

"Except when the verdict is enforced and the obtained verdict document is used as evidence, the verdict document can be used freely as long as you rebind it after unbinding it. Because the verdict document is 'what everyone wants shared immediately', I always use this method nowadays. This method is much faster than copying and mailing."

Can quickly scan and organize business cards

Mr. Makino also uses the iX500 to help organize the many business cards he receives. CardMinder, the ScanSnap business card software, helps him automatically index and save his contacts' information.

The customer

Customer: Jiro Makino, Makino Law Office
Country: Japan
Industry: Legal

The challenge

A verdict document needs to be shared with the relevant parties immediately after the verdict is handed down, but must be copied and mailed. Stacks of business cards received at professional organization events were left without being used. Moreover, scanning casebooks with a flatbed scanner to prepare for a judgement could take as long as two hours.

The solution

A ScanSnap scanning solution was implemented to streamline these tasks. He uses the iX500 to scan a verdict document and share it immediately. The iX500 is also used to scan business cards. He utilizes the CardMinder software to organize and save contact information. The SV600 is used to scan bound documents and enables quick extraction of the necessary parts.

The benefits

- Scanned information can be shared immediately by e-mailing
- Saves time by making an address book from the scanned business cards
- Streamlined the process of producing legal briefs
- Improved client service

"I find it very convenient. I hold lectures and seminars, so I could get over 20 business cards in a day. I also receive many from attending committees and study groups. In the past, I just put them in a box and did not use them. Now, everything has become so easy because I can make a full address book with the iX500 and CardMinder."

Producing legal briefs efficiently by reducing scan time

ScanSnap plays a critical role for a core part of a litigation, that is, producing a "legal brief". A legal brief is composed of a statement from the plaintiff and a counterargument against the defendant, and is essential for judgement. Research on legal precedents must be included, but often these documents are bound in book form. The SV600 is perfect for this challenge. "It is really hard to copy excerpts from a thick bound book. When I find what I need, I ask my staff to make copies of the necessary parts. But continuous copy work with heavy books is tiring, especially for female staff. Sometimes a copy of the bound part turns out black and it could take hours to complete the project. However, when we use the SV600, which has the "Book Image Correction" function, we can work faster and more comfortably by simply turning the page. It significantly improves productivity."

"Reducing administrative work means we can spend more time discussing trial strategies, and improving our service to provide successful outcomes for our clients."

Producing winning legal briefs using drawings and pictures

Legal briefs are traditionally long, wordy documents, but Mr. Makino inserts pictures and drawings using ScanSnap. "In our civil suits, there are many descriptions of a building's architecture and facilities. Visuals are much easier to comprehend for viewers, and they also help the judge understand the issues more clearly. This is what I am always careful about."

Products and services

- ScanSnap iX500
- ScanSnap SV600

Mr. Makino utilizes professional magazines, newspapers, his own hand drawings and pictures in his legal briefs. He can scan documents of different sizes with both the iX500 and SV600, and integrate the scanned data into sentences to help prove his point.

"Scanning with a ScanSnap reproduces images much better than copying, and clarity is critical to legal briefs. The most important thing is presenting a clear story to the judge."

Producing legal briefs to increase client trust

When he completes a legal brief, he will submit it to the court after he binds it and makes a copy. Many clients prefer a hardcopy of the original legal brief and the SV600 can be useful in this case too.

"I scan the original legal brief with the SV600 by simply turning the pages. It can recognize even the color of cinnabar ink." Clients are satisfied with clear scanned data, and it will eventually enhance the trust towards the office. Moreover, Mr. Makino can keep the same data which was submitted to the court and clients.

Scanning old documents as evidence with SV600

ScanSnap can be useful to capture "evidence" in addition to verdict documents and legal briefs. When scanning originals to submit to the court, the SV600 scans documents without damaging them, and can even cover A3 sizes.

"When I need to copy relatively large blueprints or old documents which I do not want to damage, the SV600 is very helpful. It produces images that are clear and close to the original, so the judge will view it favorably."

The SV600 can scan evidence-related documents including old glassine paper which is semi-transparent and thin with its bleed-through reducing function. ScanSnap significantly improves Mr. Makino's business productivity from legal briefs to verdict documents. It is certain that this improvement will lead to service of an even higher quality.

Contact

PFU LIMITED
Address: YOKOHAMA i-MARK PLACE,
4-5 Minatomirai 4-chome, Nishi-ku,
Yokohama-shi, Kanagawa 220-8567 Japan
Phone: +81-45-305-6000
Website: <http://www.pfu.fujitsu.com/>

© 2016 Fujitsu and the Fujitsu logo are trademarks or registered trademarks of Fujitsu Limited in Japan and other countries. Other company, product and service names may be trademarks or registered trademarks of their respective owners. Technical data subject to modification and delivery subject to availability. Any liability that the data and illustrations are complete, actual or correct is excluded. Designations may be trademarks and/or copyrights of the respective manufacturer, the use of which by third parties for their own purposes may infringe the rights of such owner. The usage introduced in this case conforms to Japanese laws. Please judge on the usage according to your country/region's laws.