# AI in Application:

An in-depth examination from the legal profession



**EDITED BY ALEX DAVIES** 

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### **Foreword**

Since my book *Robots in Law: How Artificial Intelligence is Transforming Legal Services*, was published at the end of 2016, legal artificial intelligence (AI) has hit the mainstream, in the media, at conferences and events, and in law firms themselves, where innovation, often using AI, is considered a market differentiator.

AI is establishing its position in lawtech, and AI in Application brings together practical examples of AI in legal services, highlighting the key offerings and the benefits that it is bringing law firms and corporate legal departments, who are important catalysts for the development and direction of legal technology.

An important development is that firms are fitting AI applications into their technology infrastructure, by combining them with existing resources and integrating them into processes to create portfolio products. In this book, Kate Boyd explains how Australian firm, Allens, created its Real Estate Due Diligence Application (REDDA) using Neota Logic's expert platform, Kira Systems' review and extraction, and HighQ's database functionality to create an end-to-end portfolio product.

Having invested in a machine learning contract analysis solution, it is worth exploring its potential. Sondra Rebenchuk of Kira Systems demonstrates how firms are using Kira for regulatory compliance. Kemp Little has developed a tool to help companies address the regulatory uncertainty around Brexit; Deloitte has created custom provision models for risk assessment to cover changes in financial regulation; and Freshfields Bruckhaus Deringer has trained the system to work in German to enable its healthcare clients comply with changes to German anti-bribery and corruption law. Rebenchuk demonstrates different ways of leveraging an AI technology beyond the defined problem that may have been the rationale for the initial investment, as these tools can be adapted to cover new regulatory challenges.

However, mid-market firms may not have the spare resources or manpower to purchase, customize, train and integrate multiple tools and systems. One option is to design and build a bespoke, scalable solution to address a clearly defined pain point. Peter Bennett describes two of Bates Wells Braithwaite's in-house AI tools: a preventative system for managing the firm's risk, and a document production system that helps the firm deliver on its strategic commercial, regulatory, and social priorities. Although these systems took significant time and effort to develop, benefits have included higher productivity, lower PI premiums, and more effective risk management.

At another mid-market firm, Keoghs, Dene Rowe describes how combining commercial and bespoke solutions have reduced human involvement in high-volume, low-margin work. Keoghs uses iManage RAVN to streamline personal injury insurance disputes through seamless integration between the firm's systems and those of its insurance company clients, enabling straightforward claims to be settled directly. Integration between iManage Extract and the firm's own AI platform enables the firm to continue to create new products that boost its competitive advantage and innovative brand.

Andrew Arruda, CEO and co-founder of ROSS Intelligence, uses several US use cases to flag up the return on investment (ROI) in AI-powered legal research, which boosts profitability by reducing the time and cost of research, as well as democratizing legal services by supporting small firms, and firms that focus on underrepresented groups.

The business advantages of AI tools, in terms of speed, efficiency, and margins, are necessarily shifting the legal services business model, which includes the client side, and legal services procurement. In outlining the rationale and functionality of the Kim legal operations system, Karl Chapman, CEO of Riverview Law, rightly emphasizes the necessity to focus on data quality when working with AI tools, particularly those that involve decision-making. AI is thorough, consistent, and scalable, but its results will be compromised if relevant data or data sets are missing.

AI in Application also includes contributions from legal AI consultants. Richard Tromans, strategic consultant and founder of the Artificial Lawyer website, raises an important issue as he considers the diversity of legal AI, in terms of its functionality, which reflects the range and multiplicity of legal services. Tromans highlights the geographical spread of legal AI, which, unlike other legal technology, has grown into a global movement for change involving every facet of legal services delivery, bringing together legal services providers and start-ups, their clients, and specialist and mainstream vendors to form an international community.

While previous legal technology was often limited by jurisdictional factors, legal AI has become an important transformative element with regional centers of excellence feeding into a worldwide marketplace that is driving progress towards improving legal service delivery and access to justice. The AI tech hype has developed into an innovation movement with a social conscience. Obviously, there will be casualties, in terms of roles, firms, and legacy technology that will be superseded by intelligent automation, and there will be challenges in terms of technology and responsibility, but as this book demonstrates, legal AI has turned out to be way beyond hype – a genuine force for change across the legal services market.

Joanna Goodman, March 2018