

CASE STUDY

Patent Tracking

Tracking Patents Allows Company to Spot Violations and Avoid Litigation

Customer Profile

Multi-National Firm

Location

Global

Industry

Business

“Civil lawsuits cost the American economy an estimated \$233 billion a year.”

-Association of Trial Lawyers of America

The Challenge

Millions of patents exist and new ones are granted every day. These documents are publicly available, but it is still difficult to track and monitor the huge number of possible violations. Is someone violating one of our patents? Are we possibly violating someone else's? Big corporations need to know.

In addition, under U.S. accounting guidelines, companies are required to disclose certain pending lawsuits and estimate their costs. While companies are often reluctant to disclose these costs for fear of alarming the markets and their shareholders, the SEC sees this information as crucial in its mission to give the public an accurate financial picture of a firm.

The Solution

This multinational chip manufacturer collects patent documents filed by competitors and uses RapidMiner's text analytics and predictive capabilities to sort and track them.

The Results

In addition to looking for similarities and possible overlap (violations), the company also analyzes the documents for similarities in technologies, writing styles and relationships between authors in order to predict and avoid litigation.

Even potential acquisitions can come out of this analysis of patents.