

Overview of e-filing in Australia

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Some issues facing the Courts

- Case Management System
- Process Re-engineering
- Money/Funding
- New laws required
- Security issues
- Archive/Storage of electronic files

High Court of Australia

- Working on storing hard copy records in an electronic Document Management System
- Integration of this system with existing Case Management System
- No immediate plans for electronic filing
- Watching developments in other courts

Federal Court of Australia

- Planned 4 stage project to e-filing solution
- Stage 1 - completed
- Stage 2 – completed
- Stage 3 – currently in progress
- Stage 4 – not yet started

Family Court of Australia

- 3 stage e-filing project
- Stage 1 undertaken being an e-filing pilot last year in Melbourne – email attachment/no fees collected
- Stage 2 not yet commenced?
- Stage 3 not yet commenced?

Australian Industrial Relations Commission

- Looking to tender for an e-filing solution shortly

Western Australia

- No immediate plans for e-filing having stopped pilot
- Currently working on infrastructure improvements and new case management system
- Implemented:
 - Court Management System
 - Judgements production database
 - e-appeals Book

Northern Territory

- IJIS e-Lodge Project has commenced
- Electronic Lodgement of legal documents directly into the case management system
- Current status – awaiting delivery of preliminary analysis report which is currently with outsource consultants

Queensland

- QUT have set up an electronic moot court
- Plans to commence electronic lodgement process shortly
- Waiting on funding
- Watching the success of e-filing in other jurisdictions

New South Wales

- Contract negotiations underway for development of Court Administration System
- Generic System for use in all NSW courts that will include e-filing and use XML
- To commence in the Supreme Court of NSW

Australian Capital Territory

- No immediate plans for e-filing
- Working on upgrading case management system
 - Undertaken review of current systems
- Looking for a full solution including e-filing using XML standards
- Awaiting funding before drafting tender

Victoria

- Supreme Court
- County Court
- Magistrates Court
- VCAT

Tasmania

- No immediate plans for an e-filing solution at this time
- Interested in the experiences of other jurisdictions

South Australia

- e-lodgement project underway commencing with the Magistrates court
- Tender based on XML standards
- XML standards have been published
- Went live 25 June, 2001

Conclusion

e-filing – It is only a matter of time