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Money Laundering Regulations 2007

15th December 2007 saw the implementation of MLR 2007. OPSIS is working closely with Solicitors Associations throughout the province to provide a CPD seminar on the new regulations. Our next seminar takes place in Enniskillen on Wednesday 30th April. Please contact us for details.

The new regulations introduce more detailed obligations regarding anti-money laundering compliance and customer due diligence formalising a risk-based approach to compliance. However, this adds an administrative burden on your staff and specifically, your Money Laundering Reporting Officer (MLRO).

OP SIS provides one of the most robust and cost-effective anti-money laundering modules available, in use since the introduction of MLR 2003.

The OPSIS AML module helps protect you against the criminal activity of money laundering and the costs associated with failure to implement effective ML procedures, such as:

- *Failure to implement ML requirements*
Prison sentence of up to 2 years and/or a fine
- *Assisting (even unknowingly)*
Up to 14 years in prison and/or a fine
- *Tipping Off*
Maximum of 5 years in prison, and/or a fine
- *Failing to report a suspicion*
Up to 5 years in prison and/or a fine

For existing users of Solicitor Case Manager, the updated AML module is available with Version 5.3.1, our latest release. For Millennium Accounts users, AML Custodian is a separate module that will operate alongside Millennium, to fulfil your AML requirements.

Features of the system include:

- Automatic check against H M Treasury's Consolidated Sanctions List
- Automatic reporting facility to your MLRO or SOCA (as appropriate)
- AML staff training records and reminders
- Industry leading client ID verification
- Effective money laundering screening procedures

Benefits include:

- Central and immediate access to all your anti-money laundering information
- Faster processing of client information
- Increased time savings

Please contact us for further details. Remember, peace of mind is priceless - the cost of not complying is the more expensive option!

SMS Text Messaging

The latest release of Solicitor Case Manager Version 5.3.1 sees the introduction of a module that allows you to send SMS Text Messages directly from a case.

This facility is a useful tool in keeping clients up-to-date with the progress of their case and reducing the number of telephone calls made or emails generated. It has many uses but specifically, it can be used for notification to clients that their property sale or purchase has completed, documents have been received or for reminders to clients that they are due in court. Should you wish, text messages can be itemised and charged as an outlay.

The module is sold at £550 which includes your first bundle of 50 text messages. Please contact us for further details.

Quote from the Bar...

"My decision to become a lawyer was irrevocably sealed when I realised my father hated the legal profession."

John Grisham

Thinking of Case Management?

In an increasingly competitive marketplace, you may be considering investing in a system that can manage your documents, cases and diary. Solicitor Case Manager does exactly that and has been proven to increase productivity by over 70% in a practice.

By combining Solicitor Case Manager with your existing Millennium Accounts you will have a complete practice management system that will ultimately save your practice time and money.

The benefits include a vast reduction in the double-entry of client and matter information, central storage of all client information with immediate access and automatic document production from an established precedent library.

If this is of interest, OPSIS have now partnered with Syscap Finance who can offer our clients a 36 month payment plan, making the outlay of investing in case management easier. Syscap specialise in the legal sector and are the finance partners of the Bar Council and the Institute of Chartered Accountants.

Millennium Training Workshop

We will shortly be introducing Millennium Training Workshops in our office. This will incorporate Management Accounts training including areas such as Profit & Loss reporting - giving you a better insight to the profitability and expenditure of your practice.

It will also allow your Accounts staff to update their Millennium knowledge and improve their skills. Please contact us if this is of interest.

Time Recording

With increasingly tighter governance on Work in Progress, time recording is becoming of more importance. By introducing time recording, you will have an accurate record of all time you spend on cases, either in the office or travelling to or from court etc.

You can time record within both Solicitor Case Manager and Millennium Accounts, with the ability to produce reports for analysis of Work in Progress activity categories and fee earners hours worked etc. Please contact us for further information.

Brief Preparation Made Easy

Facilities in the latest release of Solicitor Case Manager now make the preparation of briefs extremely quick and simple.

One client recently told us that they are now able to prepare a brief in just ten minutes that previously would have taken between three to four hours!

Please contact our Support Desk for further information.

OP SIS Support Resources

You can find a variety of useful links and resources available on the Internet from our main web site **Legal Resources** page:

www.opsisltd.co.uk/Links.htm

Our popular "How To Do..." section provides answers related to various common accounting procedures when using either Millennium Accounts or Millennium Solo, in the form of printable web pages, downloadable PDF format documentation and example screenshots.

www.opsisltd.co.uk/FAQMillennium.html

Documentation in the form of manuals, help-sheets and training guides for Solicitor Case Manager Version 5 and Version 4 are now available for download from our web site:

www.opsisltd.co.uk/Documentation.html

Contact Us

We hope you have found this newsletter informative! As always we want to hear from you regarding any of the above or if you have any suggestions on how we can improve our software.

OP SIS Ltd.
Studio A
89 Holywood Road
Belfast
BT4 3BD
Email:
sales@opsisltd.com

