

Success Story

Homburger Elevates Client Service and Efficiency with DeepJudge AI-Powered Knowledge Search

The Challenge

For law firms like Homburger, efficient access to institutional knowledge is critical. Clients hiring a top-tier large law firm want lawyers who can provide the most accurate and up-to-date advice on their most important bet-the-company matters. They expect not just efficiency, but also work informed by a knowledge of what is “market standard” practice.

Homburger’s legal professionals generate a vast array of internal documents, including contracts, memos, and client advice stored in multiple languages. In fact, the database exceeded 50 million documents in Word, PDF, and other formats, mostly stored in iManage. These documents represent the collective knowledge and experience of their lawyers, and thus are a “treasure trove” of trusted information and precedent knowledge.

Before adopting DeepJudge, the firm relied on traditional keyword-based search tools that were time-consuming and incapable of locating the full breadth of the firm’s knowledge. These inefficiencies slowed the firm’s internal workflows and its ability to deliver the fast, high-quality service its clients expect.

Additionally, Homburger needed a search engine that could seamlessly integrate with its systems and provide the precise data needed for advanced AI models – all while ensuring privacy and security.

Homburger

Homburger, a leading Swiss law firm, is recognized for its expertise across sectors such as corporate law, mergers & acquisitions, regulatory compliance, and tax. With a sizable team of legal professionals operating from Zürich, the firm delivers sophisticated legal counsel to clients globally. Always at the forefront of legal innovation, Homburger continuously seeks advanced tools to streamline workflows, enhance service delivery, and maintain its competitive edge in a fast-evolving legal landscape.

The Solution

DeepJudge, which provides an intent-based search experience that blends semantic understanding with keyword capabilities, enables Homburger's lawyers to retrieve relevant documents with ease. This search tool leverages advanced natural language processing (NLP) and proprietary AI technology to connect legal professionals with the internal knowledge they need.

The key capabilities of DeepJudge that made a difference for Homburger include:

- **Natural Language Search:** Lawyers can search by simply typing language they expect to be in the document in the search bar.
- **Speed:** Unlike other systems, DeepJudge produces accurate results in under one second, no matter how many millions of documents are being searched.
- **Secure Integration:** DeepJudge integrates seamlessly with Homburger's existing document management systems.
- **Privacy and Security:** DeepJudge maintains the firm's ethical walls and access permissions. Its single sign-on feature ensures that security protocols are respected.
- **Multilingual Search Capabilities:** Homburger operates in a multilingual environment (primarily German and English), and DeepJudge can process queries and documents in various languages with ease.
- **AI-Driven Classification and Tagging:** DeepJudge automatically classifies documents into an extensive taxonomy and enriches metadata with AI-predicted tags, improving search precision.
- **Deployment within the Firm's Secure Environment:** DeepJudge can be deployed within the firm's own IT infrastructure, ensuring that all data remains within the firm's controlled environment.
- **Real-Time Search Index Updates:** DeepJudge keeps an up-to-date record of the firm's documents across Homburger's entire document collections without any external loads or delays.

"With DeepJudge's Knowledge Search, we have found an excellent tool that allows us to navigate millions of internal documents intuitively, relieving our team from spending hours manually hunting for information."



David Oser,
Partner at Homburger

How Homburger Uses DeepJudge

Homburger's implementation of DeepJudge has directly improved the firm's productivity, client service, and lawyer satisfaction in several ways:

1. Searching for Scenario-Specific Legal Provisions Across Documents

DeepJudge can perform highly specific searches for legal provisions. For instance, a lawyer can query for "termination for extended force majeure that requires notice," and DeepJudge will return results that match the meaning rather than the exact wording. If a lawyer searches for "definition of force majeure that includes breakdown of critical equipment components" DeepJudge will return accurate results including phrases such as "mechanical failure" even absent the words "equipment" or "components," illustrating the capabilities of the AI-powered search. This capability allows searching for highly specific documents and content.

Searches can also be narrowed to a specific document type, e.g., share purchase agreements. DeepJudge automatically identifies hundreds of document types (covering all common kinds of contracts, agreements, court filings, business documents, etc.), enabling lawyers to search specifically within certain types of documents.

DeepJudge identifies duplicates, near-duplicates, and redlines, ensuring that lawyers at Homburger don't waste time filtering through irrelevant or redundant results.

These capabilities enhance efficiency when working on complex deals, further strengthening Homburger's ability to deliver high-quality work to clients under tight deadlines.

2. Finding Prior Advice Provided to a Client on a Specific Legal Topic

Homburger's legal professionals use DeepJudge to search for past client memos that address specific legal issues. For example, the firm frequently writes due diligence memoranda when it advises on acquisitions. A common issue in such diligence is missing intellectual property agreements with former employees. In this case, the lawyer can input a query such as, "due diligence memorandum missing intellectual property agreements former employees," and DeepJudge would retrieve all relevant memos that address this issue, including summaries, analyses, and recommendations made in the past. This makes it easy for the lawyers to see how they previously outlined the legal risks involved in not having IP agreements in place to another client, and what recommendations were provided.

"We see great benefits in leveraging technology to empower our attorneys to do their best work, which also helps us attract and retain new talent."



Andreas Müller,
Partner at Homburger

Quick access to trusted previous memos reduces the worries associated with missing something when communicating important matters to a client. This enhances both the speed and quality of client service, especially when dealing with recurring themes in practice.

3. Informing Generative AI Assistants with Accurate Precedents from the Firm's Prior Work and Experience

Homburger has integrated DeepJudge as the foundation for generative AI models, making it the primary gateway for these AI systems to access internal knowledge. For example, a lawyer can request the Knowledge Assistant to "find recent anti-dilution provisions in preferred stock purchase agreements for startups in Series A," and the AI will automatically identify the relevant documents, extract key provisions, and present a summary or table of the results.

This integration is pivotal for high-level workflows, particularly when dealing with complex legal matters that require comprehensive data retrieval and analysis.

The Results

Since implementing DeepJudge, Homburger not only solved the challenges it set out to address, but has also gained some unexpected benefits:

1. Improved Client Service

By significantly reducing the time required to locate relevant information, Homburger's legal professionals can now respond to client inquiries faster and more confidently. This ability to deliver high-quality service swiftly has enhanced client satisfaction and helped maintain Homburger's reputation for excellence.

2. Higher Associate Satisfaction

For junior lawyers, inefficient search can be a major source of frustration, especially when their time is consumed by repetitive, low-value tasks. DeepJudge alleviates this burden

80%

of Homburger's legal professionals use DeepJudge on a weekly basis

80%

of users say that using DeepJudge they find information/prior work product they could not find before

92%

of users say DeepJudge offers advantages they were not offered by their DMS search engine

by streamlining information access, enabling associates to focus on more meaningful work that contributes to their professional development. As a result, associates are more likely to feel valued and engaged, improving their job satisfaction and retention at the firm.

3. Operational Efficiency and Time Savings

Today, more than 80% of the firm's legal professionals use DeepJudge regularly. The platform has become a cornerstone of Homburger's operation. DeepJudge's intelligent search capabilities have significantly reduced the time spent locating documents and reusing internal knowledge, leading to substantial improvements in operational efficiency. Tasks that once took hours are now completed in minutes.

4. Enhanced AI Capabilities

DeepJudge plays a crucial role in Homburger's integration of generative AI tools. By ensuring that the right data is readily available, DeepJudge maximizes the impact of AI technologies within the firm. As AI-generated drafts, summaries, and analyses become more common, the quality and precision of data retrieval provided by DeepJudge are critical to the success of these tools.

5. Improved Knowledge Management

DeepJudge's advanced classification system has brought new levels of granularity to Homburger's knowledge management efforts. The platform automatically classifies documents into an extensive taxonomy, enriching the firm's metadata and ensuring that all relevant information is easily retrievable. This capability helps Homburger fully leverage its institutional knowledge, allowing teams across the firm to collaborate more effectively and make better-informed decisions.

Conclusion

Homburger's partnership with DeepJudge has delivered far-reaching benefits, not only in terms of operational efficiency but also in the quality of client service, lawyer satisfaction, and AI capabilities. The firm's legal professionals are now empowered with a tool that allows them to retrieve essential knowledge with unparalleled speed and accuracy, while securely managing sensitive legal data.

As Homburger continues to innovate, the ongoing collaboration with DeepJudge promises to further enhance its tech stack and help the firm stay at the cutting edge of the legal industry.

"Homburger is known for its tech-forward approach. We're excited to be a part of their journey by delivering secure and scalable solutions that improve both productivity and business outcomes."



Paulina Grnarova,
CEO and Co-Founder of DeepJudge

For more information on DeepJudge and how it can transform legal practices, [contact us](#) or visit [deepjudge.ai](#)