



Pathagoras: Everyone's Answer to Simple Document Automation

Written by: Katrina L. Hubbard, Balanced Legal Solutions, LLC

As the paper “less” office becomes more attractive and seemingly more popular for today’s law firms, so too does document automation. However the quest of obtaining such a level has proven to be costly and time consuming, which is why most traditional law firms have held off. While it is certainly always the expectation at the forefront that users at the firm will be the ones creating the documents, as they set out on this task, the once well thought out plan, slowly becomes wishful thinking. At this point, two things occur, either the project of automating documents is abandoned all together and the money invested in the program is wasted, or the firm elects to invest further monies in an expert/consultant to get the job done. Therein lies the cost and time consuming weight to be bared. Alas, there is another route available thanks to the well designed and thought out software program, Pathagoras.

Pathagoras is a true user oriented document assembly software program. Meaning, that any user with general computer knowledge and skills can create form documents for assembly with little training or orientation on the program itself. Pathagoras is plain text based, requiring no code or programming within the document in order for the assembly to take place. As such, the user begins with any document, whether templated or not and simply starts by placing [brackets] around the variables which will change with each document. It can not (and will not) get any easier than that. In fact, if the firm does happen to have a forms directory (which most do) wherein the documents are templated, Pathagoras’s *Auto Scan* feature will instantly scan the document for any variables and then prompt the user to enter in the information. This not only creates an instant database of that information but also allows the user to save this information that is personal to the client for future use in corresponding documents.

Pathagoras has several other features to it as well that further define its place as a sound document assembly program. Pathagoras is set up to work in a Library/Books fashion, wherein your Library defines the subject matter of the document and Book determines the documents within that subject matter, making the organization of the firm’s forms ever so easy (and logical). The *Documents and Clauses Selection Module* is the main module of the program and allows for the creation of several clauses which may exist in a document. For example, a complaint may require different clauses based on certain conditions that exist for the matter. As such, instead of developing one large document containing all of the clauses and complicated if/and logic statements, Pathagoras simply allows you to choose which clauses to use for the document during the assembly process. Another feature of Pathagoras is its *DropDown Lists*, which are designed to make documents for assembly accessible with a few mouse clicks. The user simply designates which folders containing documents should be *always on*, *always active* and as such, these documents are placed in the *DropDown Lists* toolbar which is installed in Microsoft Word. Other features of Pathagoras include the ability to automate the assembly of any type of file that can be placed into a Word document, including PDF, WordPerfect and image files. Pathagoras

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also contains a document management engine that aides the user in saving the documents in an organized fashion or quick call up at a later time.

Easily installed through a download, Pathagoras creates toolbars within Microsoft Word wherein all the program features are available. There is no need to manage or maintain a separate program while attempting to automate or assemble documents. While Pathagoras has the ability to create complex documents which contain logic based components, the steps involved are so rudimentary that one finds themselves questioning how can it be? What attorneys and law firms alike have struggled with for years relating to form documents and the automation of such, has been conquered with this program. Mostly because the investment is minimal at best but more so the time associated with creating useable templates is bar none. The old adage that says, "How do you eat an elephant, one bite at a time." rings true amongst many software programs, not just document automation ones. While this statement can apply to Pathagoras, it does so in a different manner. Because of Pathagoras's plain text approach, users can begin by creating forms on the fly as they come across them through the course of their normal daily tasks, thereby bypassing the "project" aspect of document automation all together. Alternatively, an entire database could be put together at the forefront but with hardly any effort at all.

Before, making an investment into a software program a firm (or user) must examine several things, including the support system behind it. Pathagoras provides several support tools, including a beginner's guide, which is designed to get the user automating documents immediately. Pathagoras also has a well maintained online help system and knowledgeable people that are eager to help in any way. For a more interactive approach, *Professor Pathagoras* provides a series of lessons that introduces the user to the program in a non traditional manner.

Pathagoras, coined its name from the Greek mathematician and philosopher, Pythagoras, who once said that "number is the ruler of forms and ideas", which is ever so true when placed within the scope of document automation. Before users and law firms alike dealt with the numbers surrounding the automation of their documents, such as the cost of a software program and the number of documents to be automated, which ultimately formed their idea of what such a project entailed thereby ruling the same. However, with Pathagoras at the helm, such is not the case as the numbers have been reduced to mere facts that simply exist, not rule. This makes Pathagoras everyone's answer to document automation.

For more information on Pathagoras and a free 90 day trial, please visit <http://www.pathagoras.com>.

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