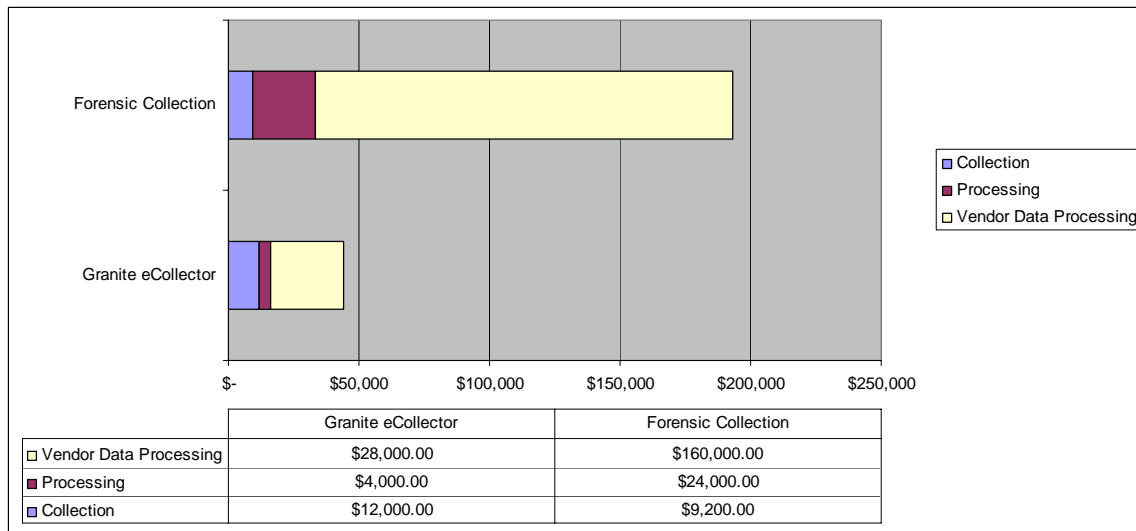




GRANITE LEGAL SYSTEMS, INC.

Cost Comparison eCollector System vs. Forensic Capture



Project Description:

Listed below is a cost and process comparison of eCollector to a forensic capture tool for a typical e-discovery document collection. In this comparison, we assume that the e-discovery team will visit the office of each document custodian to collect files on the custodian's workstation or laptop, any of the custodian's files on a network server plus any additional files on removable media (CD-ROMs, DVDs, floppy disks, etc.). The cost estimates also include capturing files from two network servers.

General Parameters:

- 40 Custodians
- Collection from local machine and network servers
- Document collection is de-duplicated (i.e., unique files only) and filtered against a client-supplied list of keywords. A full report of document metadata is also included
- Collection is ready for delivery to a hosting vendor for native file review

Collection:

eCollector Portable

- A USB hard drive is connected directly to the Custodian desktop or laptop to collect from any mapped source, including network locations. No modifications to the custodian's computer are required

Forensic Collection

- Custodian workstation is disassembled, drive removed and a forensic disk image is created just to capture files from the local workstation information
- File servers must be captured separately, which requires client IT support and physical server access.

Cost Comparison

- eCollector System: Estimate 40 hours @ \$300/hr = \$12,000.
- Forensic Capture: Estimate 20 hours @ \$300/hr for local disk capture + 16 hours @ \$200/hr for network server capture = \$9,200.

Summary: While capturing disk contents directly from the disk with a forensic tool is faster than capturing the files through the operating system, the capture process is much more intrusive.

Processing

eCollector Portable

- eCollector Portable local collections are “Aggregated” to an eCollector Enterprise server
- Documents are de-duplicated on the fly
- Metadata is extracted automatically
- Duplicate custodian information is created automatically
- A full-text index is created automatically

Forensic Collection

- For local hard drives, each disk image must be processed separately to extract files for further vendor processing.
- Server RAID arrays must be recreated and files extracted for further vendor processing

Cost Comparison

- eCollector System: Estimate 20 hours @ \$200/hr = \$4,000.
- Forensic Capture: Estimate 120 hours @ \$300/hr = \$24,000.

Summary: eCollector automated systems automatically create a single de-duplicated structured repository for collected items, replacing the manual/custom Forensic processes, which results in substantial project savings.

Vendor Costs

eCollector Enterprise

- Filter the project repository prior to vendor delivery. Typical filters are by
 - Custodian (individual or group)
 - Date range
 - File type
 - Key word or phrase (individual or list)

- Export metadata for all files (.CSV format)
- No further vendor processing required

Forensic Collection

- Vendors perform de-duplication and filtering services

Cost Comparison

- eCollector System
 - Vendor charges \$250/gb for loading data
 - 30% reduction in overall volume (minimum)
 - Estimate $\$250/\text{gb} * (160\text{gb} * 70\%) = \$28,000$
- Forensic Capture
 - Full data set is loading
 - Incur vendor service charges for de-duplication and filtering
 - Estimate $\$1000/\text{gb} * 160\text{gb} = \$160,000^1$.

Summary: Pre-filtering the collection prior to incurring by volume vendor charges results in dramatic project cost savings.

Additionally, the lower volume delivered by the eCollector system would result in greater long term savings due to reduced monthly by-volume hosting fees.

Conclusion

Industry standard by-volume charges for processing litigation data contribute significant costs to litigation e-discovery projects. The Granite eCollector system provides a simple, fast and flexible way to easily provide defensible capture processes that greatly reduce electronic discovery data volumes. eCollector provides significant costs savings for even small projects.

Please contact us for more information regarding our products and processes.



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¹ Industry rates for native file processing charges range from \$600/gb to \$1,800/gb. This estimate uses \$1,000/gb as an average volume charge. Charges for this sample project would range between \$96,000 to \$288,000.