Automation of Legal Opinions

Legal opinions are ideal candidates for deep automation. Whilst legal opinions may not always be the longest of documents, they are complex, often running to hundreds of thousands of permutations of logic when automated deeply. They need to be provided in a highly structured format, with guidance and risk control at their very heart.

The more complex the opinion, the greater the rewards of automation. Our approach is far more sophisticated than simply resolving square brackets or filling gaps in a template opinion and this significantly mitigates risk, saves drafting time, and enables delegation to more junior lawyers.

Entities

The Clarilis questionnaire collects information about the obligors, such as their jurisdiction of incorporation and company type. Statements in the opinion are then tailored accordingly. This is especially helpful if you need to cater for **multiple obligors** and/or **foreign obligors**.

Documents

Information is gathered about the documents that are to be covered. The automation can create multiple categories of documents, and ensure that each opinion catches only the correct category of document. This is especially helpful if you need to cater for multiple types of document, such as **foreign law documents and security documents**.

Qualifications and assumptions

The automation links each opinion to the accompanying qualifications and assumptions. This is especially helpful if you need to **tailor your opinions** to the transaction in hand, as you can be confident that if you add or remove an opinion from the draft, the appropriate qualifications and assumptions will move with it. We also build in extensive guidance and footnotes into the questionnaire and documents.

Optionality

In addition, our automation process almost always increases the optionality you have readily available: for instance a single obligor precedent can be automated to allow for multiple obligors, a precedent that anticipates a single category of foreign law documents can be automated to allow for multiple different foreign laws with separate enforcement regimes, and a 'full' opinion that caters for 'capacity' and 'enforceability' can be broken down so that you can generate a standalone 'capacity' or 'enforceability' opinion if the need arises.
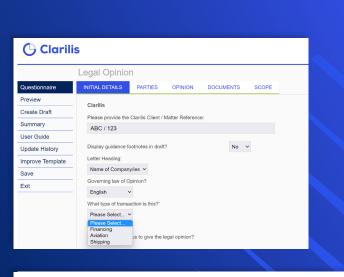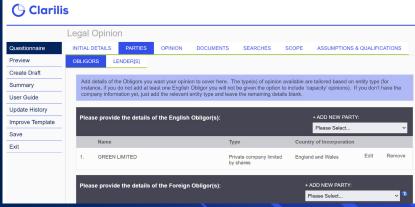
Clarilis Finance

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Why automate?

- Remove risk with the consistency and accuracy that deep automation offers

- Maintain high quality standards

- Reduce drafting and review time

- Improve margins and reduce write-offs

- Support remote supervision and mentoring

- Increase capacity

- Aid recruitment and retention

Solution differentiators

- Our lawyer-led team design, build, test, deliver, and maintain the automation for you

- Based on your firm's own precedents

- Built on the Clarilis platform, designed for complex automation

- All implementation conversations are lawyer to lawyer

- Fully house-style compliant

- Simple to use questionnaire drives hundreds of thousands of permutations

- Rigorous security measures and protocols

"We have worked with Clarilis to automate a wide spectrum of documents including some particularly complex ones. An example would be our legal opinions, which contain a vast number of options and permutations: the simplicity of the questionnaire that Clarilis were able to create belies the complexity of the automation which sits behind it. This has made a huge difference to the team and allows the fee earners to focus on providing legal advice rather than becoming bogged down in a repetitive drafting task."

Jill Moore
Senior Counsel for Risk and DPO
Burness Paull