



Long-Time Amicus User Shares What He Likes About The Latest Version Of Amicus Attorney

In 28 years of practising tax law, Gilles Bujold has seen many changes in his four-member practice. Among them, he cites the development of technology in the law office.

"I've been buying Amicus since Version 1," he says, referring to the earliest release of Amicus Attorney in 1994. "I'm somewhat of a computer nut, so I'm familiar with most of the software that's out there. Back then, it was the graphics that really attracted me. I looked at other solutions and I found Amicus was easier to play with and easier to use."

Since then, his firm has upgraded to every Amicus Attorney version released. In the spring of 2006, he returned from vacation to find an ad for Amicus Attorney 7 waiting in his mailbox. He decided to upgrade right away.

"I liked the fact that I could create custom fields, as many as I wanted," he adds. "The custom records really struck me as desirable. I have some ideas about how I'm going to use that feature, primarily related to documents."

The other Amicus 7 feature that seized his interest initially was the advanced integration with Outlook.

"I was impressed with the fact that Outlook was now inside Amicus," he says. "In fact, the integration between Amicus and all of Microsoft Office is very good."

In Amicus Attorney 7, Outlook e-mail is actually inside the Amicus Communications Center, which removes the need to co-ordinate two separate applications. All Outlook mailboxes are available to the user with Outlook inside of Amicus. E-mail and attachments can be easily assigned to a client/matter.

Another key highlight of Amicus 7 is its use of the SQL database, which Mr. Bujold knew to be a significant benefit. Moving previous firm data to the new SQL database, requires conversion before installing the program.

"The conversion went well," he explains. "Actually, that surprised me because I expected problems. Not because of Amicus, it's just that I work with software all the time and converting data is not always easy. I expected problems, but instead, the conversion went very smoothly."

Since installing the upgraded software, Mr. Bujold has discovered how much he enjoys the document templates feature ("It works well with Word") and the mobility options. In particular, he cites the ability to administer Amicus from any PC in the office - not just the server, as in previous versions - as particularly helpful.

"With the new version, I don't have to go downstairs to the server. As long as I'm logged in as myself as administrator, I have access to all of the administrative functions wherever I am."

He adds: "As far as the administration of the software, the backing up of the software, that's all much better than the previous version. For those reasons alone, it was worthwhile moving up" (to Amicus 7).



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