

Iowa Judicial Branch Electronic Document Management System; Features and Benefits

System features: The Iowa Judicial Branch e-Filing system, called the Electronic Document Management System (EDMS), Web-based and therefore available everywhere that the Internet is available; contains the following features:

- A Filer's Interface that supports
 - Remote access to cases 24 hours a day 7 days a week
 - Electronic filing and retrieval of court documents by attorneys and case parties
 - Rules-based security by case type and case parties
 - Electronic data exchange for approved government agencies
- Clerk Review Interface that supports
 - Electronic clerk review and monitoring of case data and filings
 - Electronic signing and sealing of documents
 - Automated fees and docketing of documents
 - Scheduling of court events
 - Integrated creation and docketing of notices
- Judicial Interface that supports Judicial Officers in their chambers or on the bench with
 - Electronic access to court cases and documents, including easy access to case dockets
 - Electronic order creation and filing
 - Tasks and filings organized by judicial assignments and jurisdiction
- System Administration Interface for monitoring and updating system performance
- Public access terminals at county court houses for security-based access to case data and documents
- Integration with Electronic Public Access System (EPA)

System benefits: EDMS provides the following advantages for Judges, clerks of court and other internal court users

- Secure access to the official court file at all times
- Streamlined docketing with more data exchanges and automation
- Judges' access to multiple counties from any location
- Minimal paper flow to shorten case processing time
- Electronic creation, filing and signing of court orders and notices
- Increased efficiency and consistency with use of electronic templates
- Reduced paper handling, filing, and retrieval time
- Reduced storage costs
- Reduced costs for paper, ink, postage, and faxing

System benefits: EDMS provides the following advantages for case parties and filers external to the court

- Remote access to the official court file by registered case parties at all times
- Faster communication to case parties from the court, including electronic service of documents
- Access to all a party's case files, notifications, and case information in one location
- Access to on-line training documents and forms, with potential for standardization
- Greater transparency for case parties through electronic notifications
- Court file integrity – no missing or incomplete files
- Reduced paper handling and storage in offices that use electronic case files
- Reduced cost for paper, ink, postage, and faxing
- Reduced travel time to the clerk's office and courthouse
- Automated, rule-based security on confidential court cases and documents
- Public access to non-confidential cases and documents at county courthouses