iCONECT and Nuix Deliver Direct-to-Database Integration

NEWS

iCONECT Development and Nuix announce they have competed delivery of “Direct to Database” (D2D) integration between Nuix eDiscovery and iCONECT-XERA.

House Approves Bill Overhauling Natural Gas Pipeline Permits

NEWS

The U.S. House of Representatives has approved the Natural Gas Pipeline Permitting Reform Act bipartisan bill, legislation that could speed up the permit process for the construction of natural gas pipelines, reports *Pennsylvania Business Daily*.

Wells Fargo Adds Two Senior Lawyers

NEWS

Wells Fargo & Co. recently snagged two former Bank of America

Corp. high-ranking lawyers to fill openings in its litigation and workout division, the bank confirmed, reports *The Wall Street Journal*'s Moneybeat blog.

Supreme Court Rejects BP Ex-Executive's Appeal

NEWS

The U.S. Supreme Court declined Jan. 26 to hear an appeal by a former BP Plc executive who contested whether he can be charged with obstruction of Congress for downplaying the severity of the 2010 Gulf of Mexico oil spill, Reuters reports.

Top Walmart Official Says Retailer Works to Prevent Corruption

NEWS

Walmart has spent $100 million over the past two years hiring thousands of employees to work on compliance.

Ruling May Help Employers Reduce Union Retiree Health Benefits

NEWS

Courts weighing whether union retirees have vested lifetime health-care benefits should apply ordinary contract principles, rather than special inferences or presumptions, the U.S. Supreme Court ruled, Bloomberg BNA reports.

GAO: Performance-Based Contracts Are the Way to Go

NEWS

Performance-based contracting received a boost when the Government Accountability Office found that the U.S. Department of Transportation is making progress in moving toward a national performance-based approach.

Energy Transfer Partners to Buy Regency in $11 Billion

Deal

NEWS

Pipeline operator Energy Transfer Partners LP said it would buy affiliate Regency Energy Partners LP for about $11 billion as master limited partnerships seek to simplify their complex holding structures, reports Reuters.

DLA Piper Ventures into the Cybersecurity Field

NEWS

Law firm DLA Piper plans to get into the cybersecurity business, a rapidly changing field that is pushing the legal industry to experiment with ways to help businesses dealing with the complexities of security regulations, reports *The Washington Post*.

Encana Names New General Counsel/EVP

NEWS

Encana Corp. has announced the appointment of Joanne Alexander as its new executive vice president and general counsel.

4th Circuit Adopts ‘Implied Certification’ Theory of False Claims Act Liability

NEWS

Ropes & Gray has published an examination of a recent 4th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals ruling on the False Claims Act in *U.S. ex rel. Badr v. Triple Canopy, Inc.*, No. 13-2101.

Kinder Morgan Plans $3 Billion Purchase, Leadership Moves

NEWS

Kinder Morgan will pay $3 billion for pipelines in the Bakken Shale, the company said Wednesday.

Supreme Court May Dilute

EEOC’s Aggressive Legal Strategy

NEWS

The U.S. Supreme Court appears likely to review whether the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission must seek conciliation with employers before suing them for violating federal law, reports *Business Insurance*.

IRS Specifies Performance, Quality Standards For Small Wind Turbines

NEWS

North American Windpower has published an article discussing a new notice from the Internal Revenue Service setting performance and quality standards that small wind turbines must meet in order to qualify for the 30% investment tax credit.

Supreme Court Alters Claim Construction Review Standard

in Patent Litigation

NEWS

The U.S. Supreme Court altered the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit's longstanding de novo standard of review for all claim construction in patent infringement cases.

Ex-Kleiner Partner Defeats Firm's Bid for Personnel Records

NEWS

Kleiner Perkins Caufield & Byers, facing gender-bias claims by ex-partner Ellen Pao, may not get access to her performance reviews.

Five Cybersecurity Questions for General Counsel

NEWS

The National Law Journal has posted a list of five questions that every general counsel should consider in the wake of the Sony hacking.

Supreme Court Rejects Challenge to Debit Card ‘Swipe Fees’ Rules

NEWS

The U.S. Supreme Court on Jan. 20 declined to take up a challenge by retailers to the Federal Reserve’s controversial rules for debit card “swipe fees.”

Sears and Overstock Ordered to Pay in Patent Infringement

NEWS

Sears and Overstock will have to pay software development company Droplets Inc. $15 million for patent infringement, a Harrison County, Texas, federal jury decided Friday.

Financial Executives Express Concerns About Regulatory

Mandates

NEWS

Nearly 51 percent of the 450 financial reporting executives polled at KPMG’s 24th Annual Accounting and Financial Reporting Symposium pointed to the specter of future regulations as a key concern.