



## Case Study: Legal Cost Management

**Summary:** This case study reveals how Stuart Maue's **Legal Cost Management Services** were used to establish an end-to-end compliance program and an Automated Clearing House function for a national buildings product manufacturer. The program allowed the law firms and professional service providers working for the building products manufacturer to be paid in less than 10 days versus waiting several months for payment.

### Customer Profile

For over 28 years, this building products manufacturer has produced an exterior insulation and finish system that has been used successfully on hundreds of thousands of commercial and residential buildings worldwide.

### Business Situation

The building products manufacturer is fully dedicated to stringent quality control programs, innovative research and development, as well as exhaustive safety and code compliance testing. Despite these measures, if the manufacturer's products are improperly installed, they can cause secondary problems in buildings. Often, the building owner will file a lawsuit against not only the company who installed the product, but against the building products manufacturer as well. To date, the building manufacturer had approximately 1,500 construction defect cases in progress. Overwhelmed by the number of cases, the manufacturer fell behind in their review of the invoices and in making payment to the law firms that the manufacturer hired to battle these cases. Law firms and other case professional were waiting several months for payment for services. Many of the firms were threatening to drop the manufacturer's cases due to non-payment of their invoices.

### Solution

The building manufacturer turned to Stuart Maue to assist them with reviewing the invoices from the law firms and to facilitate the payments owed to the firms and other professional service providers.

### Benefits

- Stuart Maue developed a compliance and payment process that slashed the time for invoice payments **from several months to less than 10 days.**
- The building manufacturer's staff can focus their attention on case management and direction of the firms versus invoice review and payment.
- The building manufacturer's staff did not have to hire additional staff to handle the invoice review and payment process.

Stuart Maue suggested a full compliance review program for all of the law firms and other professionals working on the manufacturer's cases. Once Stuart Maue reviewed the invoices, the audit results were provided directly to the manufacturer's staff via e-mail. In addition, Stuart Maue established an Automated Clearing House (ACH) payment process for the manufacturer so the approved payments could follow within two weeks. Stuart Maue paid each invoice on behalf of the manufacturer through the ACH program.



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### Benefits

Today, all of the invoices from law firms and other professional service providers are reviewed by Stuart Maue. Through Stuart Maue's audit findings, the manufacturer's staff had a more thorough understanding of invoices. In addition, the staff was freed from the bill review process and invoice payments.

### About Stuart Maue

Stuart Maue develops customized cost management solutions for our clients in the areas of *legal cost management, legal bill review audit and analysis, bankruptcy, and vendor invoice review*. Our clients recognize significant savings from our programs as well as gain vital insights into legal and vendor costs. With added pressure to reduce costs and improve their return-on-investment, Stuart Maue can assist clients in gaining a more accurate picture of their spending as well as the performance of their firms and vendors.

For more information about Stuart Maue or our services, call us at: 314.291.3030 or e-mail us at: [info@smmj.com](mailto:info@smmj.com).