

The Contract Cross Referencer: a new tool for the lawyer

Generic software announces a new computer program to assist lawyers: **The Contract Cross Referencer**.

The Contract Cross Referencer, or "cX" for short, assists in the process of drafting, negotiating and redrafting of an agreement or other legal document. It will analyse a document, identifying all the definitions and clauses, and list all references in the text to the defined terms and clauses.

The program will also check for certain types of drafting errors, in particular for such serious errors as references to clauses which do not exist.

As an example of the cross referencing, if you have the following text in the definition section of a document: ' **"Force Majeure" means ...** ', cX will list under this heading the clause numbers of all clauses which use the term "Force Majeure", and also the names of any other defined terms which refer to "Force Majeure". See sample report extracted below.

Looking at the sample printout on this page, you will first see an error message stating that clause 10.1.c contains a reference to a clause which does not exist - 4.9. This is a sample of a larger, notes

and "errors" report which cX produces before the cross reference printout.

In this report, you can see that the definition, "Force Majeure" is referred to by "Relevant Item", a definition which occurs in the ninth annexure, (signified by '@9'), and the text of the "Relevant Item" definition contains three references to "Force Majeure".

The Contract Cross Referencer assists:

1. by identifying clauses or definitions which contain references to non-existent clauses;
2. by picking out apparent clause sequence errors, or omitted clauses;
3. by allowing you to quickly locate all reference to a particular definition or clause which you wish to change;
4. by identifying definitions which are in the contract, yet have no references, and also definitions which appear to be redefined .

No word processing program is able to perform these important tasks, because no word processing program actually understands the text which is

*** ERROR: 10.1.c contains a reference to a non-existent clause - 4.9

cX, 1.2-AP agreement17.doc

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Definition 'Drying System' has 7 references:

'Apparent Failure'	'Partial Failure'
'Drying System'(2)	19.1 20.1
20.2	

Definition 'Force Majeure' has 19 references:

6.4.	7.7.	7.8.a.	7.8.b.
10.1.i.iii.	19.	20.1	20.1.b. (3)
20.1.	20.2. (3)	20.4.b.i.	'Relevant Item '@9 (3)
20.@22			

Clause '16.2.' has 9 references:

7.9.e.iv.	7.9.e.v.	16.3.	16.3.f (2)
16.f.iv.	16.4.	16.5.	16.6.

typed into it. The cX program actually tries to follow the text of your document, using natural language processing technology developed by **generic software** .

It is available for demonstration purposes and will be released for PC Dos and other other major systems shortly.



This seems to be the only program available at this time that will produce a list of internal clause cross-references. Although still in its beta version, Cx is a product to watch.