

# Redaction project

## Vieira De Almeida



Leading Portuguese law firm, Vieira de Almeida (VdA), recently deployed Luminance on a time-sensitive redaction project of the “utmost importance”. The team of 20 legal professionals were tasked by a client who was of great strategic significance to the firm – indeed, “one of the most important companies in Portugal” - to redact personal information in a dataset of over 8,000 documents within a “very strict deadline”.

By using Luminance, VdA were able to begin their review within hours of Luminance being deployed. Less flexible platforms often need extensive rule-creation and user onboarding incurring great financial and time costs. However, by using Luminance, which requires no lengthy set up or configuration, the firm could begin their urgent review straight away. Whilst conducting this high-profile project under strict time pressures, another advantage VdA felt Luminance gave them came from the product’s intuitive and easy-to-use design. This was of paramount importance as the firm had involved legal professionals from different business areas that normally do not work in due diligence and thus were not familiar with the Luminance platform.

VdA also felt Luminance’s project management and collaboration capabilities were critical in completing a review that would have otherwise been “more complicated or even impractical”, with the firm estimating time savings of around 50% in comparison

to previous manual methods. Gonçalo Ferreira Macedo, a Lawyer involved in the project, even noted that they “would still be doing the first batch of documentation, probably!” Using Luminance’s in-built workflow features, the redaction could be coordinated across the team of 20 legal professionals in both the Lisbon and Porto offices. David Cuba Topete, Associate at VdA, cites the ability to coordinate and allocate tasks between team members an invaluable asset in understanding the progress of each workstream. On a project of this

### KEY FINDINGS

- Despite some team members not having had a chance to use the platform previously, Luminance’s quick deployment and intuitive design meant the team completed the 8,000-document redaction project 50% faster than compared to manual methods.
- Luminance’s project management capabilities and language-agnostic algorithms facilitated collaboration among a team of 20 professionals, across multiple offices, working in English and Portuguese.

nature “it was important for the firm to allocate tasks between those doing the redacting and relocate to those reviewing before converting those documents into the final version”. The team were “in no doubt” that this project would have been unfeasible without Luminance’s collaboration tools which provided unparalleled confidence that no document had been missed.

VdA chose Luminance for the Due Diligence project due to its market-leading core technology, the Legal Inference Transformation Engine (LITE), which combines revolutionary pattern-recognition technology with supervised and unsupervised machine learning algorithms. By reading and forming an understanding of all documents within a dataset, Luminance ensures that all relevant results are surfaced at speeds and in volumes far exceeding human capacity. In a redaction project involving a huge collaborative effort it was vital that lawyers were fully appraised of all sensitive information requiring action across the data set. Hence, “Luminance and the approach applied were crucial for the outcome of this project.”

**“Luminance’s technology is flexible and has a wide range of applications across a variety of projects (...) therefore we apply Luminance not only to due diligence itself. Actually we have received benefit from using Luminance on alternative use cases and projects of the utmost importance that without Luminance would have been more difficult to manage”**

**Sofia Barata, Head of Corporate Services Unit**

Throughout deployment and use, VdA were impressed with Luminance’s Support team whom they described as “perfect, trying to solve issues as fast as they could.

Everyone was very happy with that.” Luminance’s Support personnel, along with designated Account Managers, were available 24/7 to help the firm quickly get the most from using Luminance, providing assistance and guidance on practices that would best suit VdA’s culture and workflow.

**“I was very sceptical at first about using this platform and I can say that I was surprised. since we saved lots of time. When they told me we had 8,000 documents to redact and review, I thought it would take much longer than actually did.”**

**David Cuba Topete, Associate**

Using Luminance, VdA were able to review and redact their document set, instilled with confidence that nothing had been missed and completing the redaction in half the time of previous approaches. Indeed, Luminance was so beneficial that despite initial uncertainty around the need for machine learning technology, Associate David Cuba Topete declared that he already suggested an internal workshop to his Head of Practice “so everyone can work with this tool and use it in upcoming projects.”

**“This was a project with a huge team and some of them hadn’t used Luminance before. For that reason, it was important that the platform was user friendly and really easy to adopt. Moreover, the methodology created helped the team achieve the outcome using the key project management features of the platform. This proves that the methodology applied is essential and that the platform itself can be used in any kind of situation.”**

**Marta Cabrita, Consultant**

## About Luminance

Luminance is the leading artificial intelligence platform for the legal profession. Founded by mathematicians from the University of Cambridge, Luminance has developed the Legal Inference Transformation Engine (LITE), the first true application of machine learning to the legal industry, combining pattern-recognition technology with supervised and unsupervised machine learning to read and understand human language. Luminance is used by law firms and in-house teams in over 50 countries around the world to improve processes such as due diligence, contract negotiation, regulatory compliance reviews, property portfolio analysis and eDiscovery. The company has offices in London, Cambridge, New York, Chicago and Singapore.