

Electronic Case Management System (ECM)

“Bringing hi-tech to the Courtrooms”

Electronic Case Management (ECM) is a virtual court hearing and case management system. The ever increasing cases filed in Courts and the high expectation of the public for the Courts to dispose off the cases in shorter periods, have inspired the Courts to constantly review processes of managing court cases while looking for effective, efficient and innovative ways to overcome the challenge.

Convenient, efficient and economical, the hi-tech facility introduced by ECM has broken the traditional court proceedings in Malaysia. With ECM, lawyers now can spend more time practicing law, winning cases, and reaching settlements.



Benefits

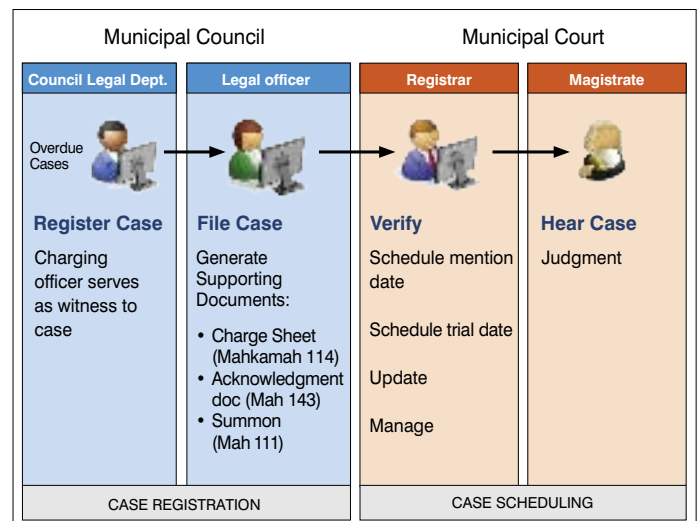
Time and Cost Saving

- Reduces traveling expenses for judges, lawyers, witnesses, etc.
- Clear court cases faster
- Reduces overcrowding during court proceedings
- Enables more frequent Attorney-client interviews
- Lawyers reduce time waiting at the court house

Improved Productivity for Both Lawyers and Court Officers

- Increase efficiency and effectiveness in tracking file movement or assigning cases
- System notification for lawyers confirm by Internet and short messaging system
- Faster information for court schedule and judgment to be published
- Consultation, hearing and mentioning of cases become faster
- Rapid face-to-face resolution in urgent situations
- Able to switch 3 types of conferencing mode simultaneously by audio, visual and text

Example of ECM usage at Magistrate Court



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System Functionalities

Court Case Management & File Tracking System

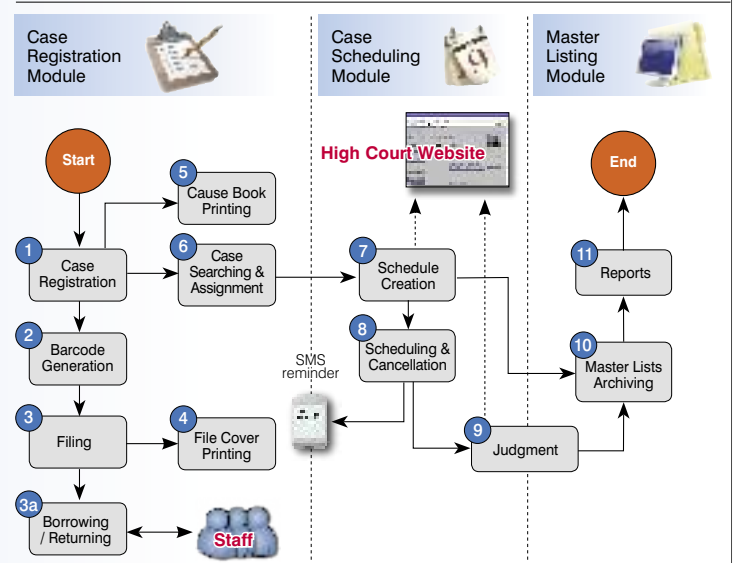
This facility allows recording of court cases as they first get registered at the court and manages the files that are associated with the cases, using the cutting edge Radio Frequency Identification (RFID) technology.

This system allows better management of court cases and reduces time to locate and track movement of files.

The system consists of three main modules, namely:

- **Case Registration Module** – To automate case registration
- **Case Scheduling Module** – To assign trial schedule and real-time notification
- **Master Listing Module** – To monitor and track file movement

Court Case Management & File Tracking System Workflow



Multimedia / Video Conferencing System

This is a state-of-the-art, innovative multimedia conferencing system (MCS) that can be used in court hearings among judges, lawyers and their clients who are at different locations. MSC runs on the existing Internet-Protocol (IP) network infrastructure of the Courts to send signals of audio and video conferencing. MCS also allows users to share documents, computer images, etc. among themselves remotely, which constitutes a very crucial feature for court hearings.

The MCS is used in the following situations :

- **Court Appearances**
Hearing, mentioning, pleas and trials.
Judges can conduct the hearing and mentioning of cases, pleas and trials with multiple parties, such as lawyers, witnesses, clients etc. in multiple locations, without their physical presence in the respective Judges' chamber.
- **Cases involving transporting persons in remand or detention**
Judges can order cases involving transporting of persons in detention to be heard over the MCS, if the agency is connected to the System. Alternatively, these persons can be transported to the nearest Court that has the MCS facility.
- **Attorney-Client interviews**
Initially the attorney and client may meet face-to-face for the first meeting, the follow-up meetings can be conducted via MCS.
- **Video Conference Meetings**
The Courts can conduct meetings or discussions with the lawyers or the Bar Councils in different locations.

Short Messaging System (SMS) Notification

The SMS service provides two functions for the lawyer:

- Notification of reminder, cancellation and re-time of trials
- Interactive SMS function that allows them to check their schedules via SMS

Alternatively, lawyers can access the website to check their schedules. However, due to their pressing schedules and constant movement, the SMS is deemed to be very useful and convenient.



Lawyer subscribers receive SMS reminders for upcoming and cancelled trials



Live virtual court hearing in progress at Kuching High Court, Sarawak