



OnlineNIC, Inc. is one of the largest ICANN-accredited registrars of Internet domain names. In 2008, it was sued by giants Verizon, Microsoft and Yahoo for allegedly registering and using thousands of domains that infringed those plaintiffs' trademarks. The electronic data to be reviewed in the case was massive – it included over 1 million domain names, millions of transactional records (such as registrant data and financial transactional data) and hundreds of thousands of emails. OnlineNIC needed an ediscovery product that could quickly ingest and cross-correlate the structured and unstructured data.

OnlineNIC's Defense. OnlineNIC's defense was simple and straight-forward – the infringing domains were registered by OnlineNIC's customers – who were individual registrants that were not affiliated with OnlineNIC in any way. Consequently, OnlineNIC maintained that it should not be held liable for any tortious committed by its customers.

The Challenge of Correlating Data. In order to execute its defense, OnlineNIC had to show that the customers who had registered the domains were real persons – not just aliases for OnlineNIC, as alleged by plaintiffs. The only way to do this was to correlate financial data and emails with the data associated with a particular infringing domain. For instance, an account named "lenawoo" - was alleged by plaintiffs to be a mere alias for OnlineNIC. To prove that "lenawoo" i.e. account #232218 was not just an alias for OnlineNIC, it was necessary to show that there were emails, faxes and payment transactions for account #232218 that were traceable to non-OnlineNIC.

Emails	Regular Documents	Versioned Documents	Transactions	Project Name	Project Number	Account Name	Competition	Project Code Name
0	0	0	4345	My First Project (Perry E-Discovery Aux)	000-003	N/A	N/A	N/A

Transactional Data																	
Id	Type	Date	CustID	LDate	LAmount	LType	ModeName	OPeriod	User.Id	ITime	Checker.Id	CheckTime	Note	CardNum	CName	CSurname	CEmail
		5/5/09	232218	5/5/09 12:00 AM	\$288.42	2	Domain Ren...	12	778	5/5/09 3:57 AM			38 domains				
		5/3/09	232218	5/3/09 12:00 AM	\$7.59	1	return .co...	0	99	5/3/09 7:46 PM	99	5/3/09 7:46 PM	659.com				
		4/28/09	232218	4/28/09 12:00 AM	\$7.59	2	.COM domai...	12	99	4/28/09 7:29 AM	99	4/28/09 7:29 AM	659.com				
		4/16/09	232218	4/16/09 12:00 AM	\$7.59	1	GTLD domai...		778	4/16/09 4:13 PM			gdmv.com				

how the LexFusion GUI presents all types of data – including Email, Documents, and different types of transactional data. Figure 1, which was produced in litigation, shows over 4,000 payment transactions to a third party - supporting the proposition that 232218 was not an alias for OnlineNIC.

The screenshot displays the LexFusion web application interface. At the top, there is a navigation bar with options like 'Manage Projects and Users', 'Search', 'Statistics', and 'Rules + Notifications'. A 'Welcome, Perry E-Discovery' message is visible in the top right. Below the navigation bar, there is a search area with a 'Quick Search' field and a 'Choose Project' dropdown menu set to 'My First Project (Perry E-Discovery) (000-004)'. A 'Groups' table lists various email categories with counts. The main search results area shows 'Search results for: A - All Emails for Matter' with 0 rows. Below this, there is a 'Search All My Emails' section with search criteria like 'Id', 'From', 'To/CC', 'Subject', and 'Date'. The bottom section shows 'Search results for: All Emails' with 85 rows of results. The table below contains the following data:

Id	From	To	Subject	#	Name	Type	Size	Date
729280	sales@xc2.com	carry@onlinenic.com	RE: domain authcode update and unlo...	0				4/13/09
729975	sales@xc2.com	carrie@onlinenic.com	RE: domain list	0				11/17/08
729972	sales@xc2.com	carrie@onlinenic.com	RE: domain list	0				11/11/08
729973	sales@xc2.com	carrie@onlinenic.com	RE: domain lists	0				10/30/08
729969	sales@xc2.com	carrie@onlinenic.com	RE: domain lists	0				10/29/08
729884	sales@xc2.com	carrie@onlinenic.com	re: TT	1	onlinenic_tt_29Oct...	htm	0.2 MB	10/28/08
729970	sales@xc2.com	carrie@onlinenic.com	RE: domain list	0				10/23/08

email for account 232218) – for which there were over 80 communications back from that email address and OnlineNIC – again, supporting the conclusion that 232218 was not an alias of OnlineNIC. LexFusion also enables users to TAG records during review with customizable tags.

Resolution. OnlineNIC was noted in default on the original Verizon complaint. However, with the help of LexFusion, the Verizon and Yahoo cases settled amicably, and Microsoft dismissed its case.