



# Forensic Technology matters? Our backyard.

Computers and digital technologies are a fundamental part of our business, personal and wider social environments. The creation and usage of information has evolved with the overwhelming majority now existing as unprinted, Electronically Stored Information (or “ESI”). This change has brought with it new opportunities and pressing challenges in how we, as professionals, do business and operate in a legal framework.

Vincents’ Forensic Technology specialists provide computer forensics and e-discovery advice and solutions to a diverse range of clients including legal professionals, courts (including Federal and Supreme), tribunals, government departments, businesses and corporations. We deliver expert advice and solutions for the identification, collection, analysis and management of ESI from a range of technologies.

Our team is at the forefront of this rapidly evolving field and is able to draw on broad and diverse skill sets in information technology and forensic investigations. Vincents Forensic Technology is fully equipped to deliver world class solutions.

## The services

### e-Discovery

- Proactive litigation readiness solutions
- Electronic evidence consulting
- Discovery project management & outsourcing
- ESI processing

### Computer Forensics

- Forensic data collection & analysis
- Network forensics
- Expert reporting & opinion

### Information Security

- Incident response
- Electronic crime investigation

**i** Vincents provides expert services in the specialties of forensic technology, forensic accounting, insolvency & reconstruction, corporate advisory, taxation & business solutions, financial advisory and executive search & selection.

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## Computer Forensics

### Digital evidence

Widespread computing means traces of everyday activity are being stored in large quantities on computers, mobile phones, PDAs, digital cameras, USB drives - the list goes on.

Finding, interpreting and presenting such digital evidence in a manner that is acceptable to the courts is complicated by the sheer volume and complexity of electronic information that is typically evident.

### The role of computer forensics

Addressing these challenges and opportunities is the role of the field of computer forensics, a scientific discipline that turns ESI into courtroom testimony.

## Glossary

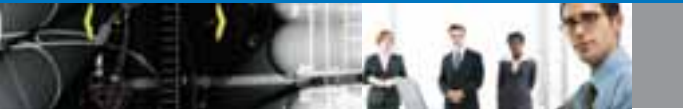
Commonly accepted definitions of key forensic technology terms:

**Computer Forensics** | Collection, analysis & presentation of Electronically Stored Information (ESI) from computers for the purpose of presentation as evidence in legal or other proceedings.

**Digital Evidence** | ESI that has been identified as relevant to a matter and is to be presented as evidence.

**Digital Forensics** | An umbrella term referring to forensics involving digital devices, including computer and network forensics. Refers to the evolution of computers into networks, mobile phones, PDA and GPS devices, etc.

**e-Discovery / e-Disclosure** | The discovery and disclosure of information stored in electronic form, for the purpose of obtaining evidence.



## E-Discovery

### The judicial process: embracing the use of ESI

Worldwide, the judiciary is directing the practice of Electronic Discovery (or 'e-discovery'), the use of ESI as the format of choice for production and tendering of documents throughout the litigation process. This move embraces digital information as the standard for presentation of evidence and promises to streamline litigation.

### Being 'Litigation Ready': impacts for business - law, IT, management

With the upcoming Federal Court Practice Note on e-discovery, litigants will be required to produce, manage and review documents in their original (or 'native') electronic form. For the unprepared, the disclosure process can be difficult due to the challenge of identifying case-relevant ESI amongst huge volumes of data. Being 'litigation ready' involves having systems and processes in place that enable rapid identification, preservation and presentation of relevant information.



## Glossary

**Forensic Image** | An exact copy of a storage device.

**Electronically Stored Information / ESI** | Any information created or stored on an electronic device, including: word processing documents, emails, voice messages, SMS, accounting ledgers, databases, etc.

**Network Forensics** | Collection, analysis & presentation of digital communications between digital devices, such as computers, mobile phones, etc, for the purpose of presentation as evidence in legal or other proceedings.

**USB Drive** | Storage using the Universal Serial Bus. Standard for attaching digital devices to computers, often used for external storage of ESI. Also known as "Thumb Drive", "Pen Drive" or "Flash Drive".

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## Our backyard.

### Our firm

Established for 20 years, Vincents Chartered Accountants is an Australian firm of accounting experts and business advisers specialising in forensic technology, forensic accounting, corporate advisory, insolvency & reconstruction, taxation & business solutions, financial advisory and executive search & selection.

### Our locations

Vincents has offices in Brisbane, Sydney, Canberra and the Gold Coast. Our Forensic Technology specialists are equipped to handle any national or international forensic technology engagement.

### Our people

Vincents uniquely focuses on maintaining solid teams of diverse and highly skilled experts. We work hard to develop professional staff with strong personal qualities and a dedicated work ethic.

In addition to their primary specialisations, our staff also possess a high degree of skill flexibility. This enables us to mobilise the best possible team in response to your individual needs.

As a Vincents client you can expect:

- access to superior skills and experience;
- open and direct communication; and
- cost-effective, time-efficient delivery of services.

Vincents invests considerable resources to ensure the Firm and our staff have access to the industry's leading technologies and IT know-how.

**i** To find out more about our Forensic Technology specialists, visit our website at [www.vincents.com.au](http://www.vincents.com.au).

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Vincents' unique and outstanding services are highly valued by our clientele, as evidenced by consecutive wins in BRW Client Choice Awards' most coveted categories in 2007, 2008 and again in 2009:

- Australia's Best Professional Services Firm (revenue \$50m)
- Australia's Best Accounting Firm (revenue \$50m)

This year's wins bring our BRW Client Choice Awards tally to ten.

forensic technology

**BRISBANE**  
t 61 7 3854 4555

**SYDNEY**  
t 61 2 9223 4455

**CANBERRA**  
t 61 2 6257 2077

**GOLD COAST**  
t 61 7 5570 1766