



Case Study:

Writing History with Streaming Technology

The story of a Toronto-based Court Reporting Firm tasked with handling the recording of one of the most complex proceedings in judicial history and how they overcame the diverse logistics that were involved.

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Client Overview:

Located in Toronto's downtown business district, Neesons is one of Canada's leading realtime court reporting firms. With over eighteen years' experience providing deposition and courtroom services to the legal industry, they are one of the most recognized court reporting firms in Ontario and are known for providing high quality, consistent realtime by leveraging technology, innovation and hands-on experience.

Challenge

Find a solution that allowed for concurrent communication between multiple locations for a large cross-border trial

Solution

LiveDeposition's Web-based Realtime Streaming and Video Conferencing Software

Results

Client was able to create a successful, first-of-its-kind, historic event that now, and for many years to come, will serve as a reference point on the importance of using advanced technology inside the courtroom.

A Complex Cross-Border Trial

In 2009 Nortel Networks, Inc., a manufacturer of telecommunications and data networking equipment, filed for Chapter 11 Bankruptcy in the United States, under the CCAA in Canada, and under bankruptcy laws in the UK, which in turn led to one of the largest, most expensive trials ever to take place in the history of the North American judicial system.

In May of 2014, a trial began to determine how billions of dollars of assets would be divided amongst Nortel creditors spread throughout the world. This trial was extremely complex and unique in that it was a cross-border joint trial taking place simultaneously in both the United States and Canada, with two courts and two judges each having to abide by their jurisdiction's own set of procedures and law.

Before the trial could commence, it was imperative to have a solution in place that allowed for concurrent communication between multiple locations, as well as a solution that provided the overflow of attorneys and legal professionals with a means to be active participants during the proceedings without entering the actual courtroom (due to lack of space). [Neesons](#), an Ontario-based court reporting firm, and Wilcox & Fetzer, a Delaware-based court reporting firm, were tasked with capturing the record. Neesons was in charge of implementing and overseeing the communication protocol to be used during the trial.

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Kim Neeson, President of Neesons, was more than ready to take on this opportunity. "With the Nortel Trial, we had the unique situation of providing court reporting on a cross-border case – the first of its kind. We needed to bridge a high volume of attorneys and clients who would never all fit in the courtroom, let alone at counsel tables, and allow them to be a meaningful, 'realtime' part of the trial process," says Neeson.

Finding a Solution Beneficial to all Parties

Pulling from her 30-plus years of court reporting experience, her attendance at numerous industry related conferences and trade shows and her compassion and drive to use advanced technology in reporting, Kim Neeson was able to implement a web-based internet realtime streaming and video conferencing solution that exceeded the needs of all parties involved.

Streaming technology is not something Neesons is unfamiliar with; in fact, one of the services their agency offers is internet realtime streaming and video conferencing for depositions, which allows their clients to remotely attend and be active participants in the proceedings without being present at the deposition location. Using this type of technology in a courtroom setting to connect cross-border courtrooms and provide dozens of additional legal professionals with a way to remotely follow the trial had never been done before and the realtime streaming solution needed to meet certain criteria.

The criteria was as follows:

- The realtime streaming product vendor needed to provide strong, nimble support.
- The program needed to be easy to use for both the court reporters, the judges and the legal professionals.
- The program needed to be universal and provide the ability for attorneys to use it with any of their realtime viewing software.
- The program needed to be accessible from any device, such as a PC, Mac, iPad, Android Tablet or Kindle Fire.
- Clients needed to have the ability to chat privately and securely with each other online so they could collaborate in realtime.

LiveDeposition.com's Universal Streaming Takes the Stage

Since Neesons already provided internet streaming to their deposition clients, they had experience using most of the products on the market and in one way or another those products fell short. The only product that stood out and met all the criteria guidelines was [LiveDeposition.com's](https://www.livedeposition.com) RemoteRealtime™ web-based streaming solution.

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LiveDeposition’s RemoteRealtime™ product gives litigation professionals the tools they need to remotely participate in courtroom and deposition proceedings from any location, at any time. Using LiveDeposition, participants in the Nortel Trial would be able to monitor and analyze the cross-border proceedings as they happened without ever having to step foot in the courtroom. This would be accomplished by participants using an Internet connection and either their PC, Mac, iPhone, iPad, Android Enabled Smartphone and Tablet or the Kindle Fire.

For Kim Neeson, the choice was easy. When asked what made LiveDeposition the right solution she stated, “LiveDeposition is a great product with great people behind it. I have been very impressed with their knowledge of the industry, their commitment to build the very best product and their drive to ensure they stay ahead of the curve by offering the newest technology. Every experience I have had with LiveDeposition in terms of help and product support has been readily available. The company goes out of their way to ensure everything is working seamlessly.”

With the extreme magnitude of the Nortel Trial and the fact that this was the first time internet streaming would be provided to simultaneously bridge the courtrooms of two different countries, Neesons ultimately went with LiveDeposition. The decision was made due to LiveDeposition being the most respected, flexible, intuitive and easy to use solution on the market.

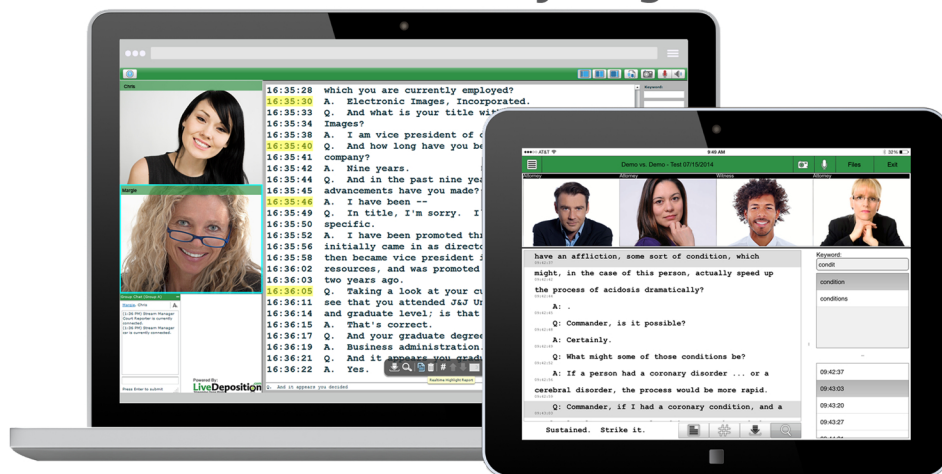
Going to Trial with LiveDeposition

On May 12, 2014 the courtroom portion of the Nortel Bankruptcy Trial officially commenced in both Toronto, Canada and Wilmington, Delaware. From the two officials presiding over both locations, on-site witnesses, court reporters, and dozens of legal professionals in the United States, Canada and Europe, LiveDeposition was used quite extensively for flawless onsite and offsite communication.

For Justice Frank Newbold of Canada and Judge Kevin Gross of Wilmington, Delaware, LiveDeposition’s web-based RemoteRealtime™ was used to receive live witness testimony in streaming text format as it was being written by court reporters in each jurisdiction. They were also able to privately communicate back and forth with each other (when required) by using LiveDeposition’s encrypted, secure chat feature.

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“We used LiveDeposition to its fullest. We were able to view the stream from the courtroom in Delaware, and the reporters in Delaware were able to view our stream from Toronto. It was very helpful when we couldn’t hear, we needed clarification or we just got a little behind.”



LiveDeposition was set up on tablets, iPads and laptops, giving onsite legal counsel the ability to follow along with what was happening in the cross-border courtroom, as well as privately communicate with their colleagues. Some even took advantage of the product’s ability to integrate with any litigation realtime viewing software and streamed LiveDeposition through Summation and LiveNote.

In addition to being used by the officials and onsite legal counsel, on a daily basis dozens of legal professionals from the United States, Europe and Canada remotely logged in to LiveDeposition and were able to follow the joint proceedings through live video, audio, and realtime text streaming. LiveDeposition allowed them to observe and communicate with their colleagues, without the necessity of being in the courtroom, thereby saving significant travel and sundry costs.

Even the reporters on record were able to benefit from the realtime text streaming provided by LiveDeposition. “We used LiveDeposition to its fullest” Neeson mentioned, “We were able to view the stream from the courtroom in Delaware, and the reporters in Delaware were able to view our stream from Toronto. It was very helpful when we couldn’t hear, we needed clarification or we just got a little behind.”

Overall, using LiveDeposition, Neesons was able to take an extremely complicated situation and turn it into a successful, first-of-its-kind, historic event that now, and for many years to come, serves as a reference point on the importance of using advanced technology inside the courtroom.

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Moving Forward with LiveDeposition

Neesons has always been known as one of the technological leaders in Court Reporting in Canada, and the use of LiveDeposition in the Nortel trial has cemented that even further. In fact, when the Nortel trial ended, Neesons began working on another large trial where they used LiveDeposition to stream realtime locally, with hopes of convincing counsel to allow remote streaming to their clients and their war rooms.

“LiveDeposition is the only product I would choose to use for both realtime streaming and video streaming.” Kim Neeson commented. “LiveDeposition support is exceptional. Knowing we have strong support behind us gives us additional comfort when convincing clients that LiveDeposition is the way to go. We also have less issues with our reporters once they are all up and running, which saves myself and the staff at Neesons time and energy.”

Given the exposure Neesons and many local attorneys in Toronto received during the Nortel trial, Kim is hopeful that realtime streaming will become the norm for her clients, especially now that they have had the experience of using LiveDeposition and seeing just how easy and powerful of a tool it is.

For more information on Neesons please visit their website at www.neesonsreporting.com or give them a call at 888.525.6666.

About LiveDeposition.com

Headquartered in Sherman Oaks, CA, LiveDeposition.com is powered by MegaMeeting.com, a long-time resident of the video and web conferencing industry. As the only universal streaming solution on the market, LiveDeposition.com provides the Legal Industry with local and cloud-based remote deposition solutions, as well as web-based video conferencing and toll-free conferencing services. Being exempt from typical download and installation requirements, LiveDeposition.com works on all internet browsers, connects to all CAT software and litigation realtime viewers as well as offers mobile apps for iOS, Android and Kindle Fire users, making its state-of-the-art solutions easily accessible via PCs, Macs, iPhones, iPads, as well as all Android enabled tablets and smartphones.

For more information on LiveDeposition, or to hear similar stories, please visit our website at www.livedeposition.com or give us a call at 888.337.6411.

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