

Appendix A: Sponsor Description (ReCode Law):

“ReCode Law” is a German organization founded to infuse digitalization into the German legal world. It does this with a grassroots method, at least as low down in the legal pipeline as you can get, and that’s with students. The organization is impressively comprised of 65% students and 30% trainee teachers, which brings young, up and coming leaders in law to the forefront of digital modernization. They were originally founded in 2018 and currently boast seven different physical locations (Recode.law - Crunchbase Company Profile & Funding). Speaking of their size, they currently encompass over 120 members which have significant outreach. These members have achieved not only over 7000 social media followers, but also a staggering 900+ newsletter subscribers and over 500 individuals actively listening to their podcast. For an up-and-coming company this is quite impressive, but what’s even more impressive is their extensive list of partners and sponsors. From “Legal Tech Association Germany eV” to “Contemporary Law Review”, they’re partnered with a lot of big names in the business. These partnerships give the company further credibility, which is important for newer businesses.

Clearly digitalizing legal resources is a prime objective of this organization. It is important that they have some numerical data on the progress that’s already been made to see which changes need to be implemented going forward. Beyond bringing them data, we also bring a foreign perspective, which can be very beneficial for their cause. We may be able to offer different ideas and methods that have not yet been employed in Germany that could enhance Germany’s current legal tech offerings. Our outside perspective also allows us to compare and contrast how programs present in both Germany and the United States have performed. Furthermore, data and statistics are invaluable to any company to measure their impact, especially in cases where impact cannot easily be extracted. For a case such as this, which we find ourselves in, it takes a lot of time and resources to quantify impact, which is exactly where our project comes in. When we provide ReCode with datapoints on which specific policies and outreach programs are the most effective, they will be better able to grow their organization and reach out to as many people as possible.

To give some context as to why “Access to Justice” via digital tools is important, we’ll bring in American examples, such as the small presentation the New York courts put together.

This presentation specifically highlights the disparities that exist among the population where quick access to digital legal tools is concerned. They focus on three key issues, the first two being the access themselves, which include access to the internet and devices to access the internet. However, they also bring up an excellent point which we will have to study in more detail, which is that even with access to digital legal tools one must be technologically literate enough to find and use them. The lack of complete digital literacy is highlighted by the finding that 75% of individuals who were completing online forms for the courts ended up needing assistance to complete them. They also found that both lack of digital access and literacy more heavily affected low-income groups. This presentation by the courts is just one of many findings that can highlight just how important “Access to Justice” and access to “Legal Tech” tools is (Brown).

ReCode’s first AI & Law Conference was held back in January 2022, about two years ago. Since then, they’ve come a long way in evolving the way they use AI to interface with complex and dense law texts. They also started their podcast back in 2019, which has since attracted many listeners. Their podcast team consists of seven moderators and a plethora of guests. (recode.law, Podcast 2023) Additionally, the podcast team also partners with REthinking: Law Edition. By bringing on another organization, their different views on the same subject can be compared to give listeners the most in-depth and legal experience possible (recode.law, Events 2023).

ReCode also reports on the latest news and updates regarding Artificial Intelligence legislation as well as the applications of the technology. This is done through roughly biweekly newsletters that outline the changes/updates in a digestible format with citations where appropriate. These newsletters take the form of Press Releases, Reports, and something called “New Law Radar”. ReCode also hosts an AI and Law Conference (Now yearly!) Where this year they will be focused on “Large Language Models”, and how these systems are “revolutionizing the legal sector through language models’ abilities to understand and interpret complex legal texts.” This kind of accessibility is what ReCode Law seems to really be about so their commitment to different programs and formats to get this information out is a good sign. Another program hosted by ReCode is their monthly podcast where they “introduce the people behind different projects and companies” as well as the projects and companies themselves

obviously. In these podcasts there are several moderators (likely to fact check) meaning their information is likely quite reliable. Lastly, there is a Magazine section on the website where interviews, newsletters, “Psychological Perspectives”, as well as many other topics are posted and discussed (recode.law, Magazin 2023). All these things are available either for free as a student or Legal aid, or likely for a nominal fee. The myriad of different formats of information employed by the ReCode team embody their central idea of expanding access to the law and understanding it by making it much more accessible to the layperson. There is constant change in the laws surrounding AI and the uses of AI in law such that the articles aren’t just filler, they are reporting on developments as they happen as well as discussing the implications of such changes.

In alignment with our project's objectives, ReCode Law's role as a facilitator of innovation and its focus on future-oriented themes make it an ideal partner. By collaborating with ReCode, our project aims to not only provide valuable data but also to engage in a knowledge exchange that benefits both parties. Through mutual collaboration, we can explore the practical implications of our findings within the context of ReCode's ongoing initiatives, ensuring that the insights generated contribute directly to the organization's mission of advancing legal tech and digitalization in Germany.

Appendix B: Sample Interview Questions

Consent Preamble: Hello, we are students working as part of a project studying how legal technology can be used to increase access to justice for asylum seekers. We’d like to ask you a few questions to assist us in our project. Do we have your permission to quote your responses in our project publication, and if not can we still use your responses to further our own knowledge? Additionally, we’d like to inform you that you do not have to answer every question and can end your participation at any time.

Interview Guide for Identifying Issues and Barriers:

1. Who are you and how are you entangled with asylum seekers/refugees?
2. What common issues have you seen asylum seekers face?
3. What are the barriers to overcoming those issues?

4. (Include specific questions about issues we've found in our literature review. For example, how prevalent a specific issue is.)

Interview Guide for Determining Feasibility of a Technological Solution

1. Who are you and how are you entangled with asylum seekers/refugees?
2. Do you have experience in (insert particular issue)?
3. In your expert opinion, could an online legal technology tool assist in solving this issue?

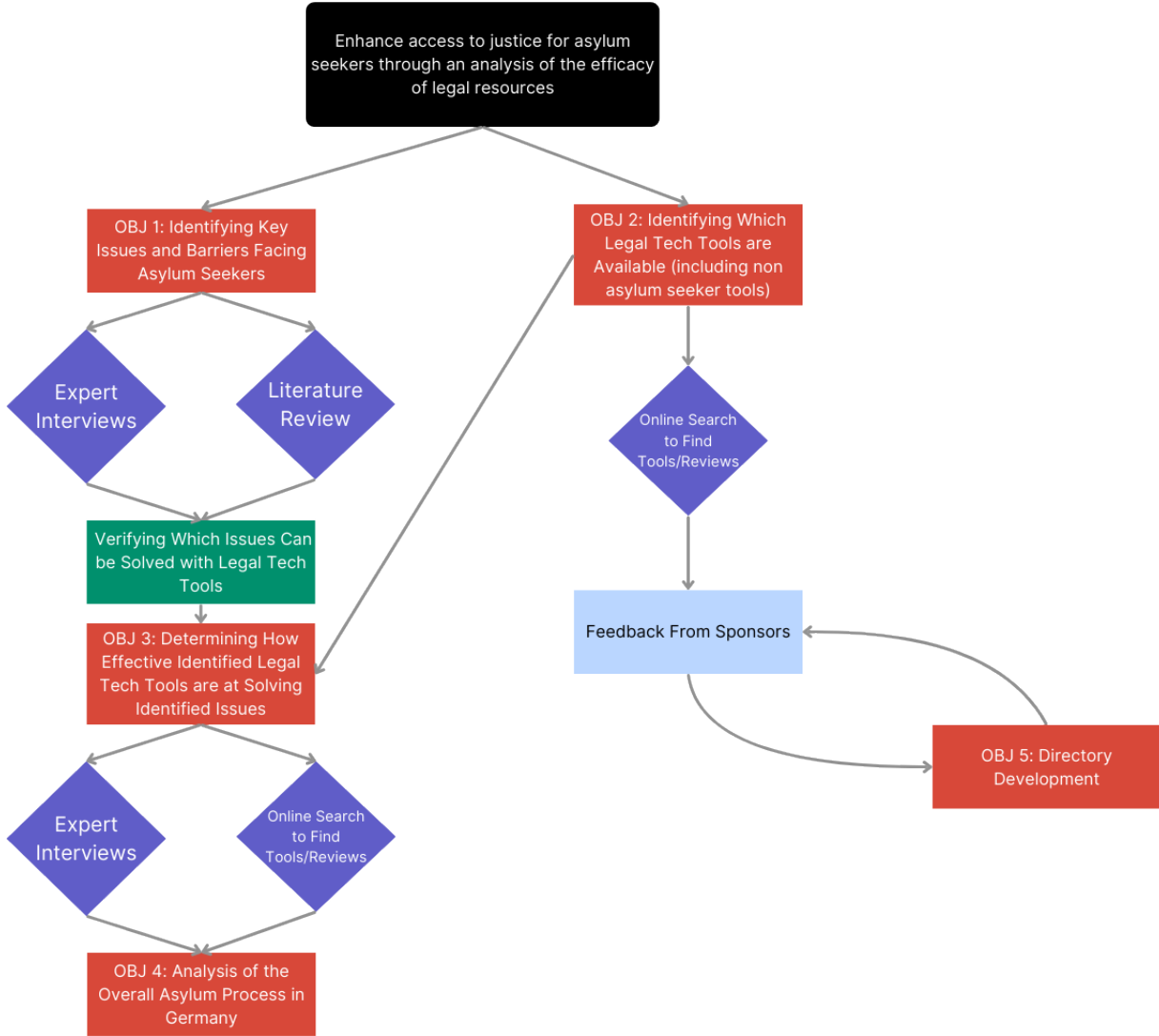
Interview Guide for Finding Legal Tech Tools/Effectiveness of Legal Tech Tools

1. Who are you and how are you entangled with asylum seekers/refugees?
2. Do you have experience in (insert particular issue)?
3.
 - a. Are there any legal tech tools that you know of that assist in solving this issue?
 - b. Do you have experience in (insert particular legal tech tool)?
4. In your expert opinion, how effective is (insert particular tool) at solving (insert particular issue)?

Interview Guide for Finding Solutions

1. Who are you and how are you entangled with asylum seekers/refugees?
2. Do you have experience in (insert particular issue)?
3.
 - a. What solutions or improvements do you think could solve this issue?
 - b. Do you think (insert particular solution/improvement) is a reasonable recommendation?

Appendix C: Graphic Representation of Objectives and Methods



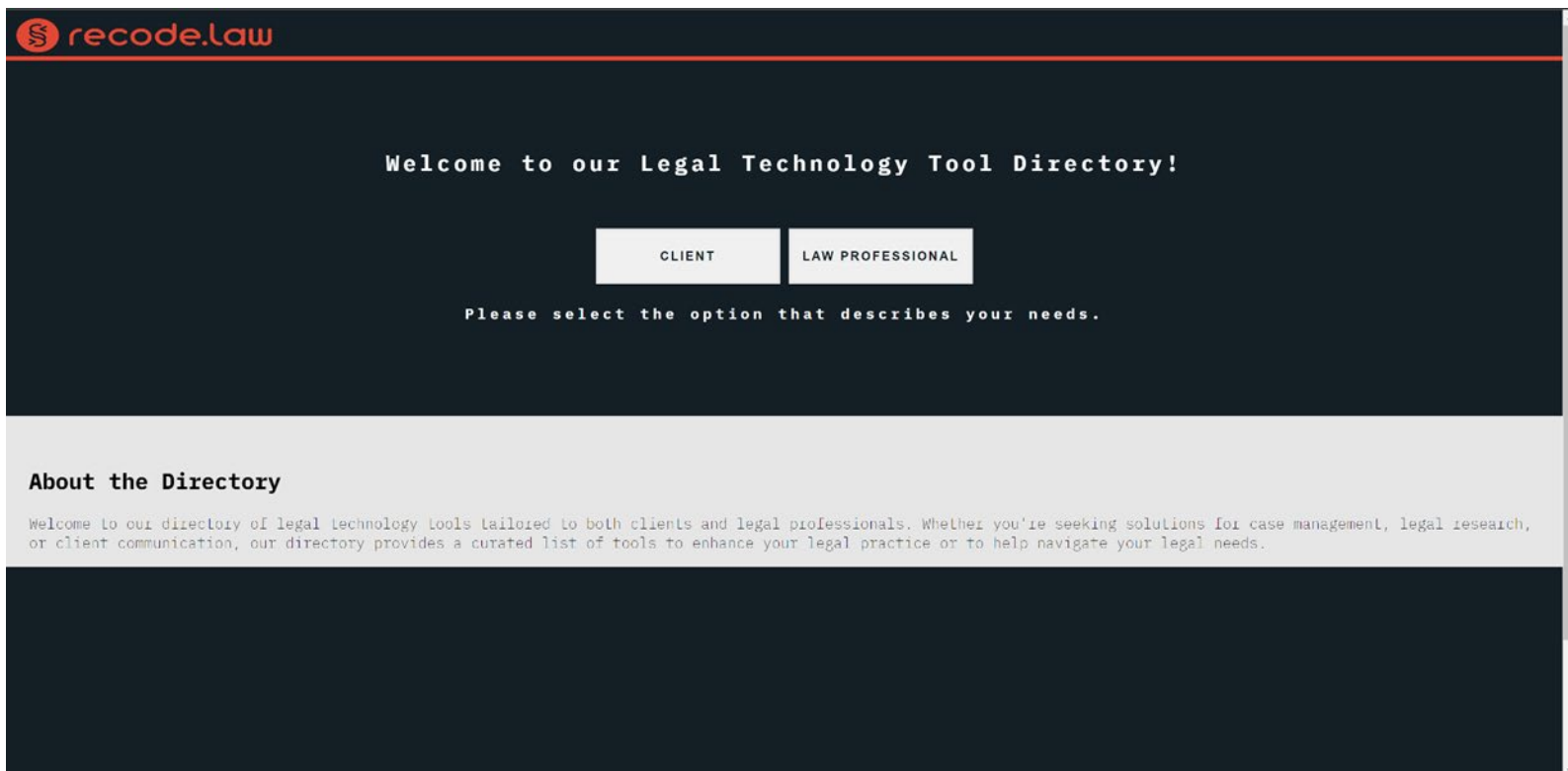
Appendix D: Project timeline

	Week 1	Week 2	Week 3	Week 4	Week 5	Week 6	Week 7
Identify key issues and barriers facing asylum seekers							
Identify which legal tech tools are available							
Determine how effective identified legal tech tools are at solving identified issues							
Analysis of the Overall Asylum Process in Germany							
Create a directory of available legal tech tools							

Appendix E: Directory development and reasoning

Home page v1.0

One of the primary issues identified in our first objective was the lack of available information about many of the technical solutions that already exist, as well as a lack of understanding on where they fit into the legal process for clients or professionals. For this we propose a directory of tech tools with accompanying information on their various applications in simplifying the process of seeking redress for legal issues.



In this first version of the Home page for our directory we attempted to eliminate any of the potential distractions from what this site is used for and keep the landing page as simple to understand as possible. Our design attempts to draw the user right to the center of the page to identify what option describes their need, as well as give a small blurb about the purpose of said directory below that. We also have adhered to the visual design of our host website “recode.law” so that the transition from their existing website to our directory is as smooth and noninvasive as possible.

Client/Professional directory designs v1.0

Next, we have the basic design for the two major sections of the directory, both of which currently look very similar. We utilized a product sheet style of layout for the tools we will be reviewing so that many of the available options may be perused at a glance. There is also a picture option so that the logo/design of a given tool may be displayed easily for a user. The text below these pictures will give the name of the tool, as well as a basic category for it so that users can easily distinguish between the basic uses of tools regardless of potentially confusing names given to the tools. This layout ensures that the user gets all relevant information to decide what tool they seek to learn more about. The user can simply click the “See details” button to progress.



Welcome to the client directory

Here you can find an assortment of legal tech tools deemed to be useful for the general public.



200X200

Tool
Category

[See Details](#)



200X200

Tool
Category

[See Details](#)



200X200

Tool
Category

[See Details](#)



200X200

Tool
Category

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200X200

Tool
Category

[See Details](#)

This directory does not intend to be a substitute for legal advice, simply an additional resource to make various processes easier.

This site was made by students working with representatives from ReCode.law

[ReCode's Website](#)

Home page v1.1



Welcome to our Legal Technology Tool Directory!

CLIENT

LAW PROFESSIONAL

Please select the option above that describes you.

About the Directory

Welcome to our directory of legal technology tools tailored to both clients and legal professionals. Whether you're seeking solutions for case management, legal research, or client communication, our directory provides a curated list of tools to enhance your legal practice or to help navigate your legal needs. This directory was created with the aim of informing users of the legal technology tools that are out there, and where they may fit into your legal issue. Our hope is that by disseminating this information we may simplify legal processes for clients and professionals alike. This directory was created by students as a part of an International Qualifying Project for Worcester Polytechnic Institute in Worcester Massachusetts, USA. Special thank you to recode.law for sponsoring and hosting this project and directory!

In this version the logo in the top left corner was resized and the accompanying CSS design aesthetic was furthered so these changes are reflected on other pages as well.

Additionally, more information about the directory and fixing how we write recode.law to be in all lowercase since we had been capitalizing the R, and C before.

Client/Professional Directory v1.1



Homepage

Welcome to the client directory

Here you can find an assortment of legal tech tools deemed to be useful for the general public.



AdvoAssist

Appointment
Scheduling

[See Details](#)



200X200

[Link to sample entry](#)

SAMPLE

[See Details](#)



200X200

[Link to sample entry](#)

SAMPLE

[See Details](#)



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[recode's website](#)

This version got the same facelift from the updated CSS, the logo in the top right fits better, the header links made more visible, and the entries per line is now five. An entry was also added, and the fixes to recode's spelling was added. Lastly, there was initially overflow in

the page making it so there was either a horizontal scroll bar, or if I hid the overflow, a cut off screen. The CSS changes addressed this issue so that the page fits better into a screen.

Directory Template v1.0



Homepage Client Tools

Price:

Category

1000X300

Description

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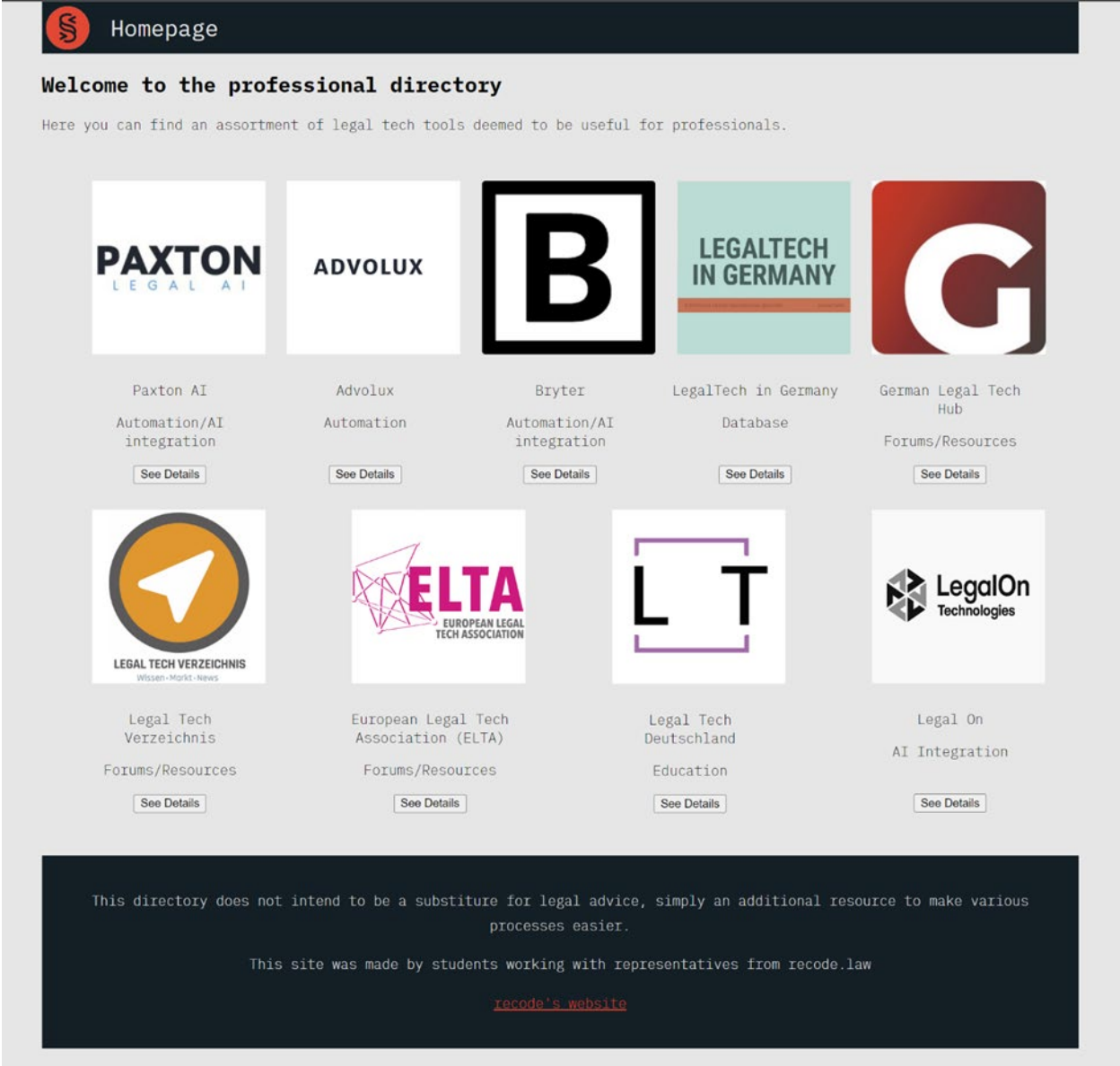
Tutorial

Lorem ipsum dolor sit amet, consectetur adipiscing elit, sed do eiusmod tempor incididunt ut labore et dolore magna aliqua. Ut enim ad minim veniam, quis nostrud exercitation ullamco laboris nisi ut aliquip ex ea commodo consequat.

This is the basic layout for each entry, there's a spot for a price as well as the category right at the top so that can be the first thing people see so they don't get their hopes up if they wanted a free tool but only find out about it later. The category is also immediately stated so that people aren't confused about what this particular tool is for. Followed by a picture, likely a logo or screenshot of the tool itself. Right now the description and tutorial have placeholder text to fill it out but they're aptly named. The description giving the user a better idea of where this tool fits in as well as some of the features identified. The tutorial is


the part that will change the most per tool as there are many types of tools from the very involved and complicated to the simple. An important note about the tutorials is that we don't want to just take an entire tutorial off of their (creators) website since they're the ones that made it. So in some cases we may simply link to the tutorial provided by the site.

Professional directory populated with relevant tech tools as of 4/12/24








A few design changes were made for the final version of the site, things like adding authorship, altering the text in buttons, reordering entries based on the categories, as well as making the site fit into the whole screen rather than having the empty spaces on the sides. The client directory also changed formats for the majority of its entries, opting instead to have simple links to relevant sites rather than entire entries for them.

Client directory with aforementioned changes:

 Homepage

Welcome to the client directory

Here you can find an assortment of legal tech tools deemed to be useful for the general public. Buttons lead to our own entries, while links bring you directly to sites.

				
AdvoAssist Appointment Scheduling More...	Ankommen App Informational To website	Refugees Welcome Housing To Website	Worker Job board To Website	FreshDoc Document library To Website



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This site was made by students working with representatives from [recode.law](#)

[recode's website](#)

[WPI Berlin Project Center Website](#)

Website created by Brian DeFlaminio, with content by Zachary Stahl, and Dexter Stark

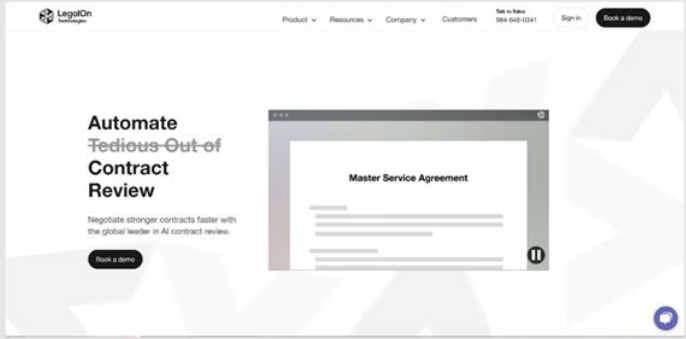
 **WPI**  **recode.law**
digital thinking for the legal world

Directory Entry for LegalOn Tool:

Homepage Professional Tools

Price: Must apply for a demo

AI integration



Features

- Automated contract review
- Easy and quick integration into existing systems
- International and expanding business

Description

The AI used for this tool is pre trained to detect risks in contract documents. It is also capable of providing sample language and practice notes that can be made specific to the type of contract that is being worked on. Can be personalized to suit the needs of the user. Some of the potential use cases for this tool are in the fields of finance, healthcare, and real estate. This tool is marketed for being of great use to companies and firms of any size, as the services it provides cut down on time wasted by reviewing contracts. The website makes it apparent that this tool is not a replacement for lawyers and should not be used for finalizing documents. It is also important to note that time and effort is required for making sure that the AI suits your needs. Despite the fact that it is pre-trained, this is only for its basic functionalities.

[The website](#)

Appendix F: Authorship

Item	Author
Introduction	Zachary Stahl & Dexter Stark & Brian DeFlaminio
Background	Brian DeFlaminio & Zachary Stahl
Methods	Zachary Stahl
Results – initial writing and research	Brian DeFlaminio & Zachary Stahl
Results – reorganization and editing	Zachary Stahl & Brian DeFlaminio
Tech tool writing/research	Dexter Stark
Directory creation (coding and styling)	Brian DeFlaminio
Citations	Brian DeFlaminio & Zachary Stahl
Booklet creation/design	Brian DeFlaminio & Zachary Stahl