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## Judiciary launches electronic case management system

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| Azaraimy HH |

THE Brunei civil courts yesterday witnessed another milestone with the implementation of a modern centralised electronic case management system called 'Judiciary Case Management System' (JCMS).

The soft launching of the JCMS was officiated by Chief Justice Dato Seri Paduka Haji Kifrawi bin Dato Paduka Haji Kifli at the Supreme Court Building.

JCMS is implemented by the Judiciary with the assistance of State Judiciary Department at the Prime Minister's Office at civil courts in all four districts with the aim to effectively manage court documents and services for the benefit of both the public and the legal community.

JCMS will cover all civil and criminal litigation, bankruptcy, probate and marriage processes in Brunei Darussalam in both the Supreme Court and subordinate courts by creating an electronic network connecting all the civil courts nationwide.

The provision of electronic court services will allow for a more effective and systematic way of managing court resources, enhancing accessibility of the courts for the general public, government institutions and legal practitioners.



Photo shows a legal officer operating one of the JCMS kiosks at the Supreme Court Building as Chief Justice Dato Seri Paduka Haji Kifrawi bin Dato Paduka Haji Kifli looks on. - AZARAIFY HH

JCMS is expected to enhance court efficiency and productivity as the system provides judges and judicial officers with access to case files from any location and allows for concurrent access to any case file by more than one person at the same time.

JCMS consists of e-Filing System (EFS), Case Management System (CMS), and Queue Management System (QMS).

The e-Filing System (EFS) is an electronic filing system designed to serve public users and legal practitioners in the electronic filing of court documents.

Government agencies and registered law firms may use the e-Filing website (<http://efiling.judiciary.gov.bn>) which provides an online portal where users can log in to gain access to a wide range of services, such as the pre-registration of cases, filing of case documents, file searches and retrieval of documents.

It is also to provide users with their case schedules and alert them on the status of their cases and times of hearings.

Members of the public can use the e-Filing website to download or extract signed documents only. To file a case, members of the public may go to the 'Service Bureau Counter'.

The court will then send an e-mail notification for the document to be extracted to download the document, prompting users to proceed to the e-Filing website (<http://efiling.judiciary.gov.bn>) and enter the extraction code number provided in the e-mail to download the document.

The Case Management System (CMS) is a centralised system through which the courts can manage cases and pro-actively track and monitor each case through its life span. The system is for the internal use of the Judiciary only and allows for the assignment of cases and management of hearing schedules for judges and Judicial Officers.

CMS also provides for the archiving, record keeping and retrieval of case documents and search capabilities of information on court cases.

Judges and Judicial Officers may also store their notes of proceedings and judicial decisions in the system.

The Queue Management System (QMS) allows members of the public and legal practitioners to obtain up-to-date hearing lists, status of cases and other court schedules via kiosks which are located at selected court buildings.

The interactive kiosks provide an orderly queue system, particularly for chamber hearings before Registrars of the Supreme Court.

To find out information on cases and parties, users can go to any of the provided kiosks, select 'Enquire Case Details' and enter the case number for the relevant information.

To register attendance, users must go to the kiosk, select 'Register Attendance', enter the case number and select either 'All Plaintiffs Present' or 'All Defendants Present' and select 'Yes' to confirm attendance.

The State Judicial Department said that by not registering attendance for chamber hearings in the QMS, the court will not be able to manage clients' attendance or call the case.

For further information, the public can visit the Judiciary's website [www.judiciary.gov.bn](http://www.judiciary.gov.bn) or e-mail [courts@judiciary.gov.bn](mailto:courts@judiciary.gov.bn).

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