

In-house Technology: What's Hot and What's Not

July 13, 2011 by [Martha Newman, J.D., PCC, TopLawyerCoach, LLC](#)

A Survey Reveals What's Making an Impact on Productivity



BlackBerry or iPhone? Laptop or iPad?

Today's technology has certainly thrown us for a loop - but it has also increased our productivity and made our lives just plain easier. In-house legal departments are especially appreciative of their technology. In fact, *Corporate Counsel's* [2011 Survey of In-House Technology](#) shows a substantial (and expected) rise in mobile technology use and a shift, of sorts, in the relationship between company lawyers and outside counsel.

First, mobile technology. What's hot and what's not?

The must-have BlackBerry of five years ago is now almost a distant memory. In-house lawyers and their counterparts are more dazzled by newer options - like iPhones and Android-based devices. And, they're using these multi-capable devices - *a lot*.

Top Lawyer Coach, LLC
601 Penn Street
Fort Worth, TX 76102

817/992-6711
newman@toplawyercoach.com



- **90% of department lawyers says they use mobile broadband Internet services on the road.**
- **Nearly 65% of in-house lawyers use mobile devices in lieu of laptops while traveling.**

There is a downside to this rise in mobile technology use: Downtime, or lack thereof.

- **At 40% of law departments, attorneys are expected to answer every message they receive, regardless of the time or reason. That's up from 29 percent in 2009.**

Second, the changing relationship between legal departments and firms.

These departments are now letting firms know that certain technologies and providers need to be used. For instance:

- **Nearly a third of survey respondents say they have asked outside firms to address specific tech concerns in their RFPs.**
- **18% say they've stopped using an outside firm because of technology-related issues.**

These are just some of the highlights from *Corporate Counsel's* survey. Alan Cohen offers even more insight in his article: **In-House Tech Survey: Weapons of Mass Communication**. It's worth the read - and your time.

Top Lawyer Coach, LLC
601 Penn Street
Fort Worth, TX 76102

817/992-6711
newman@toplawyercoach.com

