Gartner

Legal Technology Market Map: GC's Guide to AI and Established Technologies

Avoid redundant investments with a structured legal tech strategy

With 88% of corporate executives planning to increase AI-related investments in 2026, general counsel (GC) are under pressure to demonstrate clear returns on AI tools. This urgency often drives reactive technology purchases.

Without a strategic framework, legal teams risk redundant subscriptions and underutilized features, diminishing the value of AI adoption.

The Gartner Legal Technology Market Map equips GCs to make informed decisions by:

1. **Mapping the legal tech ecosystem:** Understand the 17 distinct markets shaping legal technology today.
2. **Identifying high-impact AI solutions:** Pinpoint where stand-alone AI can address critical gaps left by traditional tools.
3. **Implementing agentic workflows:** Leverage modern AI-driven workflows to automate complex legal processes and drive operational excellence.

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New legal tech stack: Foundational and emerging AI markets for legal

Source: Gartner

Prioritize emerging legal AI tech markets for high-volume work

Legal AI markets extend the traditional legal tech stack with AI-first applications and orchestration platforms. These tools increase capacity for high-volume work such as contract review, drafting and risk assessment, enabling legal teams to scale output without proportional headcount growth.

Automated contract review

Benchmarks drafted agreements against corporate playbooks and clause libraries to deliver automated redlining during presignature negotiations.

Sample vendors:
Definely; Ivo; Juro; LegalOn; Spellbook

Agentic workflow tools

Automate complex, multistep processes through autonomous AI agents operating within dynamic permission frameworks.

Sample vendors:
Bryter; Flank; Leah; Newcode AI; Tonkean

Contract assembly and drafting

Combines AI templates, natural language processing, and rule-based logic to generate consistent agreements.

Sample vendors:
Draftwise; Gavel; Spellbook; Luminance; Juro

Legal AI platforms

Orchestrate specialized and general-purpose agents to streamline legal research, due diligence, document analysis and drafting.

Sample vendors:
Thomson Reuters’ CoCounsel; Harvey; LegalFly; Legora; Noxtua

Legal self-service chatbots

Deploy conversational interfaces across enterprise messaging channels to deliver instant legal guidance to business stakeholders.

Sample vendors:
Checkbox; Coheso; Josef; Microsoft; Tonkean

Patent drafting and prosecution

Leverages advanced large language models to automate patent application creation, claim drafting and office action responses.

Sample vendors:
Ankar; DeepIP; Patlytics; Questel; Solve Intelligence

Strengthen foundational legal technology markets before scaling AI

Foundational legal technology markets form the core system-of-record for legal operations, centralizing data and supporting key workflows across the legal life cycle. While many platforms now incorporate AI capabilities, their primary role remains enabling scale, governance and operational consistency.

Contract life cycle management (CLM)

Manages agreements across initiation, negotiation, execution, compliance and renewal.

Sample vendors:
Definely; Ivo; Juro; LegalOn; Spellbook

Matter management

Centralizes intake, status tracking and key dates to establish dedicated workspaces for legal teams.

Sample vendors:
LawVu; Litify; Mitratech; Septeo's Legal Suite; Xakia

Legal spend management

Reviews outside counsel invoices against billing guidelines to track budget performance and enforce compliance.

Sample vendors:
Brightflag; LexisNexis; Mitratech; Onit; Thomson Reuters; Wolters Kluwer

Legal document management

Secures document repositories through version control, granular access permissions and search functions.

Sample vendors:
Epona; iManage; Intapp Collaboration; LexWorkplace; NetDocuments

Legal workflow management

Standardizes rule-based task execution and approval routing to streamline administrative operations.

Sample vendors:
Mitratech's TAP; Neota; Onit; ServiceNow; Streamline AI

Legal RFP platforms

Streamlines outside counsel selection using competitive digital bidding environments and AI proposal evaluation.

Sample vendors:
Justice Bid; Persuit; Priori; Thomson Reuters; Wolters Kluwer Legal Collaborator

Strengthen foundational legal technology markets before scaling AI (continued)

Corporate board management

Centralizes sensitive board materials and automates meeting logistics within secure digital portals.

Sample vendors:
Board Intelligence; BoardPro; Diligent; Nasdaq Boardvantage; OnBoard

E-discovery and legal hold management

Automates evidence preservation notices and expedites data identification, collection and analysis.

Sample vendors:
Exterro; Everlaw; Logikcull; Mitratech; Relativity

Legal entity management

Maintains corporate subsidiary records, ownership structures and compliance tracking across global jurisdictions.

Sample vendors:
Athennian; Computershare GEMS; CSC Global; DiliTrust; Wolters Kluwer hCue

Legal research

Aggregates primary and secondary legal authorities into searchable databases to verify precedents and statutory changes.

Sample vendors:
Thomson Reuters Westlaw; LexisNexis; Bloomberg Law; vLex

Intellectual property management

Oversees patent, trademark, copyright and trade secret life cycles while automating deadline docketing.

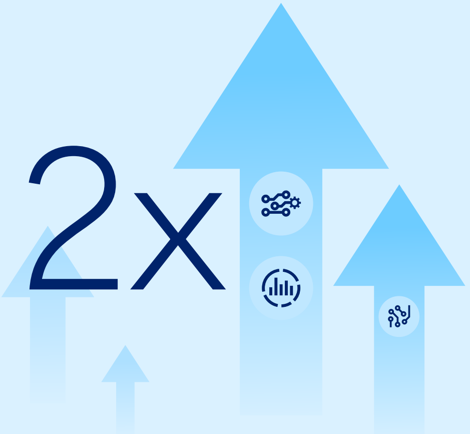
Sample vendors:
AppColl; Anaqua; Clarivate; Patsnap; Questel; Wellspring

Address the 5 obstacles limiting legal technology ROI

Navigating the complexities of the current legal tech landscape requires a clear understanding of the following market shifts:

- **Market fragmentation:** Uncoordinated expansion of specialized AI applications creates high-friction, disconnected operating environments.
- **Inconsistent system compatibility:** Poor data exchange between emerging AI tools and core platforms traps critical information within software silos.
- **Stack complexity and redundancy:** AI capabilities filtering into traditional platforms cause software overlap, driving unnecessary subscription costs.
- **ROI deficit:** Pressure to deploy AI without clear return metrics leads to isolated, reactive tool purchases.
- **Widening digital performance gap:** Departments leveraging integrated AI scale output, while lagging peers face escalating relative overhead.

By 2028, legal department technology budgets will double to support expanded use of GenAI and agentic AI.



Source: Gartner

3 actions to optimize and future-proof your legal tech stack

To optimize technology portfolios, legal leaders should take the following actions:

1

Audit your current technology portfolio.

- Map current legal tools and their capabilities against the 17 technology markets.
- Eliminate overlapping capabilities before approving new AI purchases.
- Quantify utilization rates to uncover underused investments.

2

Target high-value AI use cases.

- Prioritize legal workflows with high volume, manual effort or cycle-time constraints.
- Deploy AI where it delivers measurable productivity gains.
- Avoid broad AI rollouts without a defined business outcome.

3

Establish an interoperability standard.

- Require new technology investments to integrate with core systems of record.
- Create a unified data strategy across legal platforms.
- Prevent isolated AI deployments from creating new information silos.

Actionable, objective insights

Explore these additional complimentary resources and tools for GC:

Webinar

Join a Virtual Event

Hear the latest insights from Gartner analysts at an upcoming or recorded event.

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Report

Legal 2030: 8 Shifts in Legal's Operating Model to Build Legal Intelligence

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Insights

Top AI Insights for General Counsel

AI adoption is reshaping legal departments — discover how GCs can lead with confidence.

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