Marvel Studios is the movie production operating unit of Marvel Entertainment, Inc., one of the world’s most prominent character-building entertainment companies. CLM Matrix was engaged to improve the process for creating contract agreements with the production casts and crew. Marvel’s contracts include minor actor agreements with the Screen Actors Guild (SAG), production crew agreements with various business departments (e.g., Sound, Lighting, Special Effects), and highly negotiated agreements with lead actors and actresses.

The company can incur millions of dollars in late fees and penalties when they fail to meet contractual compensation obligations. They did not have a single repository with associated metadata that would provide automated triggers and alerts based upon negotiated contract terms. Lead Actor agreements included 175 optional clauses that could be included in the final agreement with various obligations related to each clause.

CLM Matrix defined the workflow processes for each of three contract types and used the Matrix Enterprise™ software to configure the key business rules that would generate proactive notifications for key terms. The software’s automated workflow and SmartContract features (that leverage out-of-box Microsoft Word functionality) reduced the manual tasks to negotiate and create each unique agreement, making the process much more efficient. The automated alerts and triggers will reduce the financial penalties and ultimately improve the company’s bottom-line performance.