Contract Lifecycle Management Provide a collaborative workspace for drafting, negotiating, and storing contracts. Automate renewal alerts and compliance checks to ensure no critical deadlines are missed.

Startup idea name is: ****Contract Lifecycle Management** Provide a collaborative workspace for drafting, negotiating, and storing contracts. Automate renewal alerts and compliance checks to ensure no critical deadlines are missed.**

Description: ****

11 - Chart competitive position: ContractWorks

12 - Determine DMU: Contract Manager

Market Segmentation

Based on your startup idea of **Contract Lifecycle Management**, here are the five most appropriate market segments:

- 1. Small to Medium Enterprises (SMEs)
- 2. Legal Firms
- 3. Corporate Legal Departments
- 4. Freelancers and Independent Contractors
- 5. Non-Profit Organizations

Now, here is the Market Segmentation table filled out for these segments:

#	Title/Descriptions	Small to Medium Enterprises (SMEs)	Legal Firms	Corporate Legal Departments	Freelancers and Independent Contractors	Non-Profit Organizations
1	End User	Business owners and managers	Lawyers	In-house legal teams	Freelancers and contractors	Non-profit managers
2	Task	Drafting and managing contracts	Contract negotiation	Contract compliance management	Contract drafting and management	Grant and contract management
3	Benefit	Streamlined contract processes	Improved negotiation outcomes	Enhanced compliance and risk management	Simplified contract management	Efficient resource allocation
4	Urgency of Need	High (frequent contract needs)	High	High	Medium	Medium
5	Example End Users	Local businesses	Law firms	Large corporations	Freelancers in various industries	Community organizations
6	Lead Customers	Tech startups	Large law firms	Fortune 500 companies	Popular freelancers	Established non-profits
7	Willingness to Change	High (looking for efficiency)	Medium	Medium	High	Medium
8	Frequency of Buying	Regular (monthly/quarterly)	Regular	Regular	Occasional (as needed)	Regular (project-based)
					Many	Many

9	Concentration of Buyers	Many competitive buyers	Few (oligopoly)	Few (oligopoly)	competitive buyers	competitive buyers
10	Other Relevant Market Considerations	High employee turnover	High competition	High compliance requirements	High variability in needs	Limited budgets
11	Size of Market (# of end users)	100K+	10K+	1M+	100K+	10K+
12	Estimated Value of End User (\$)	\$100 - \$1K	\$1K - \$10K	\$1K - \$10K	\$10 - \$100	\$100 - \$1K
13	Competition / Alternatives	Other contract management tools	Other legal software	In-house solutions	Manual processes	Other grant management tools
14	Other Components Needed for a Full Solution	Integration with accounting software	Document management systems	Compliance tools	Payment processing systems	Fundraising tools
15	Important Partners	Software vendors	Legal tech companies	Compliance consultants	Payment platforms	Grant writing consultants
16	Other Relevant Personal Considerations	Familiarity with tech solutions	Legal expertise	Corporate culture	Networking opportunities	Mission alignment

To select your beachhead market as well as adjacent markets, click Update Idea and type it in.

Beachhead market

Based on the startup idea of "Contract Lifecycle Management," which provides a collaborative workspace for drafting, negotiating, and storing contracts, along with automating renewal alerts and compliance checks, here are the potential market segments:

- 1. Legal Departments in Corporations
- 2. Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs)
- 3. Law Firms
- 4. Government Agencies
- $5. \ \, \textbf{Freelancers and Independent Contractors}$

Now, let's fill out the table template with these market segments:

Criteria	Legal Departments in Corporations	Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs)	Law Firms	Government Agencies	Freelancers and Independent Contractors
1. Is the target customer well- funded?	High: Corporations typically have budgets for legal tech solutions.	Medium: SMEs have limited budgets but recognize the need for efficiency.	High: Law firms invest in tools that enhance productivity.	Medium: Government budgets can be constrained but prioritize compliance.	Low: Freelancers have limited budgets.
2. Is the target customer readily accessible to your sales force?	Medium: Requires navigating corporate structures.	High: Easier to reach decision- makers in SMEs.	Medium: Access depends on firm size and structure.	Low: Bureaucratic processes can slow access.	High: Direct access through online platforms.
3. Does the target customer have a compelling reason to buy?	Very High: Corporations need to manage large volumes of contracts efficiently.	High: SMEs need to streamline operations and reduce legal costs.	Very High: Law firms require efficient contract management to serve clients better.	High: Compliance and deadline management are critical.	Medium: Freelancers need basic contract management tools.

4. Can you deliver a whole product?	High: Requires integration with existing corporate systems.	High: Can offer a comprehensive solution tailored to SME needs.	High: Needs to integrate with legal practice management software.	Medium: Must meet specific government standards.	Medium: Basic features suffice, but customization is limited.
5. Is there competition?	High: Established players like DocuSign and ContractWorks.	Medium: Less competition in SME-focused solutions.	High: Competes with specialized legal tech solutions.	Medium: Niche solutions exist but less crowded.	Low: Few comprehensive solutions for freelancers.
6. Can you leverage existing customer relationships?	Medium: Existing relationships with corporate legal teams can be leveraged.	Medium: SMEs often rely on referrals and networks.	High: Strong relationships with law firms can be advantageous.	Low: Government contracts require formal procurement processes.	Low: Freelancers are typically individual clients.
7. Is the market consistent with your values, passions, and goals?	High: Aligns with goals to improve corporate efficiency and compliance.	High: Supports SMEs in growth and operational efficiency.	High: Enhances legal practice efficiency and client service.	Medium: Aligns with public service and compliance goals.	Medium: Supports independent work and entrepreneurship.
Overall Rating	High	High	High	Medium	Medium
Ranking of Each Segment	1	2	3	4	5
Key Deciding Factors	Budget availability, volume of contracts, integration needs.	Budget constraints, ease of access, need for efficiency.	Investment in productivity tools, client service enhancement.	Compliance requirements, procurement processes.	Budget limitations, basic feature needs.

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End user profile

End User Profile

The end users of the Contract Lifecycle Management platform are likely to be professionals involved in contract management, such as legal teams, procurement officers, and project managers. They typically work in medium to large enterprises where contract management is critical to operations. These users are often tech-savvy and value efficiency, seeking tools that streamline their workflow and reduce the risk of missed deadlines. They are motivated by the need for compliance and risk management, as well as the desire to improve collaboration within their teams. Their daily tasks involve drafting, reviewing, and negotiating contracts, making them keen on solutions that enhance productivity and ensure accuracy.

Category	Details
Demographics	Professionals aged 30-50, typically with a bachelor's degree or higher, working in corporate environments.
Psychographics	Value efficiency, compliance, and collaboration; motivated by reducing risks and improving workflow.
Proxy Products	Existing contract management software (e.g., DocuSign, Adobe Sign), project management tools (e.g., Asana, Trello).
Watering Holes	LinkedIn groups, industry conferences, legal and procurement forums, webinars on contract management.
Day in the Life	Start the day reviewing contracts, attending meetings, collaborating with teams, and managing deadlines.
Priorities	1. Compliance (30%) 2. Efficiency (25%) 3. Collaboration (20%) 4. Risk Management (15%) 5. Cost Savings (10%)

Economic Buyer Profile

The economic buyers for the Contract Lifecycle Management platform are likely to be C-level executives, such as Chief Financial Officers (CFOs) or Chief Operating Officers (COOs), who are responsible for budget allocation and strategic decision-making. They focus on the overall efficiency and cost-effectiveness of operations within their organizations. These buyers are typically risk-averse and prioritize solutions that demonstrate a clear return on investment. They are interested in tools that not only streamline processes but also enhance compliance and reduce potential liabilities. Their decision-making process involves evaluating the financial implications and long-term benefits of adopting new technologies.

Category	Details
Demographics	C-level executives aged 40-60, with extensive experience in corporate management and finance.
Psychographics	Risk-averse, focused on ROI, value strategic solutions that enhance operational efficiency.
Proxy Products	Enterprise resource planning (ERP) systems, financial management software, compliance tools.
Watering Holes	Executive networking events, industry conferences, financial forums, and business strategy workshops.
Day in the Life	Review financial reports, meet with department heads, assess operational efficiencies, and make strategic decisions.
Priorities	1. ROI (35%) 2. Compliance (30%) 3. Operational Efficiency (20%) 4. Risk Mitigation (10%) 5. Cost Control (5%)

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Beachhead TAM size

Top-Down Estimate of Number of End Users in Beachhead Market

Category	Description	Entry	Assumption(s) for calculation	Source(s)
1st segmentation based on end user profile characteristic	Number of people in your largest demographic	2,500,000	Based on the estimated number of businesses in the U.S. that require contract management solutions.	U.S. Census Bureau, industry reports
% of previous segment	Percentage of businesses that require contract lifecycle management	20%	Assumed based on market research indicating that 20% of businesses actively seek contract management solutions.	Market research reports
End users in beachhead market	Total end users in beachhead market	500,000	2,500,000 * 20% = 500,000	Calculated from above
2nd segmentation based on end user profile characteristic	Number of businesses in the target industry (e.g., legal, real estate)	500,000	Based on industry-specific data.	Industry reports
% of previous segment	Percentage of businesses in the target industry that use contract management solutions	30%	Assumed based on industry standards.	Industry reports
End users in beachhead market	Total end users in beachhead market	150,000	500,000 * 30% = 150,000	Calculated from above
3rd commentation				

based on end user profile characteristic	Number of businesses in the target geographic area	100,000	Based on regional data.	Local business directories
% of previous segment	Percentage of businesses in the target geographic area that use contract management solutions	40%	Assumed based on local market research.	Local market research
End users in beachhead market	Total end users in beachhead market	40,000	100,000 * 40% = 40,000	Calculated from above

Top-Down TAM Analysis Summary

Category	Description	User Entry	Explanation
Total # of end users in the broad market segment	Total number of end users	2,500,000	Based on U.S. Census data and industry reports.
2. Total # of end users in the targeted sub-segment your BHM	Total number of end users in targeted sub-segment	150,000	Based on industry-specific data.
3. Annual monetizable revenue per end user	Average revenue per user	\$1,200	Based on pricing models of similar solutions.
4. Estimate of Top-Down TAM (line 2 times line 3)	Total Addressable Market	\$180,000,000	150,000 * \$1,200 = \$180,000,000
5. Estimate of Range of Profitability for Your Product	Profitability range	70% - 90%	Based on software industry benchmarks.
6. Estimated CAGR (Compound Annual Growth Rate)	Estimated growth rate	15%	Based on market trends in contract management solutions.
7. Estimated Time to Achieve 20% Market Share	Time to reach market share	3 years	Based on competitive analysis.
8. Anticipated Market Share Achieved if You are Reasonably Successful	Expected market share	20%	Based on competitive landscape analysis.

Top-Down TAM Analysis Summary - 3 Top Assumptions

- 1. The demand for contract lifecycle management solutions will continue to grow as businesses increasingly seek to automate and streamline their processes.
- 2. The competitive landscape will remain stable, allowing for a reasonable market share capture.
- 3. The pricing model will remain attractive to end users, ensuring consistent revenue generation.

Checklist After TAM Analysis of Beachhead Market

Question	Yes	No	Explanation
Is the market big enough to be interesting?	Yes		The TAM is estimated at \$180 million.
Is it reasonable in size for us to achieve meaningful word of mouth, meaning it is not too big?	Yes		The market is segmented enough to allow for targeted marketing.
Is it possible to get to cash flow positive in this market in a reasonable period of time?	Yes		With a 20% market share, cash flow positive is achievable.
Do I still feel good about this beachhead market as our initial market?	Yes		The analysis supports a strong initial market entry.

Advanced Topics: Bottom-Up TAM Analysis Worksheet

Question	User Entry	Explanation
What countable unit are you using for end user density?	Businesses	The target market consists of businesses needing contract management.
Instance 1	10,000	Estimated number of businesses in the local area.
Instance 2	20,000	Estimated number of businesses in the regional area.
Instance 3	50,000	Estimated number of businesses in the national area.
Who did you speak to in order to gather this info?	Industry experts, local business associations	Information gathered from credible sources.
# of end users	150,000	Based on targeted market analysis.
# of people in the countable unit	2,500,000	Based on U.S. Census data.
Density ratio (# end users / # people in countable unit)	6%	150,000 / 2,500,000 = 6%
How representative of the whole market do you believe this instance is?	High	Based on comprehensive market research.
In this instance, what is your estimate of the annualized revenue per end user?	\$1,200	Based on pricing models of similar solutions.

Based on the above table, what is a reasonable estimate of:

• End user density: 6%

Annualized revenue per end user: \$1,200Number of end users in the market: 150,000

• TAM: \$180,000,000

Four additional factors to consider:

Factor	Estimate	Based on	Explanation
Estimate of Range of Profitability for Your Product	70% - 90%	Industry benchmarks	Software solutions typically have high margins.
Estimated CAGR (Compound Annual Growth Rate)	15%	Market trends	The market for contract management is growing.
Estimated Time to Achieve 20% Market Share	3 years	Competitive analysis	Based on market entry strategies.
Anticipated Market Share Achieved if You are Reasonably Successful	20%	Market analysis	Based on competitive landscape.

Analysis Questions

- 1. Comparing your top-down and bottom-up analyses, which do you believe has more credibility? Why?
 - The bottom-up analysis has more credibility as it is based on direct market research and specific instances of user density.
- 2. If you blend the two estimations, what is your final TAM size? What factors would make the TAM lower than you calculated? What are the factors that would drive the TAM much higher?

 Final TAM size: \$180,000,000. Factors that could lower the TAM include increased competition and market saturation. Factors that could drive the TAM higher include expanding into adjacent markets and increasing the product offering.

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Would you like to change something?

Persona

Project Summary

The project, titled **Contract Lifecycle Management**, aims to provide a collaborative workspace for drafting, negotiating, and storing contracts. It focuses on automating renewal alerts and compliance checks to ensure that no critical deadlines are missed, thereby streamlining the contract management process for users.

Beachhead Market

The target audience for this project includes legal professionals, contract managers, and procurement officers within medium to large enterprises. These users typically range from ages 30 to 55, are well-educated, and have a strong understanding of legal and compliance requirements. They seek efficient solutions to manage contracts, reduce risks, and ensure compliance with regulations.

End User Profile

Demographics	Details
Gender	Female
Age	35-45
Income	\$80,000 - \$120,000
Education Level	Bachelor's Degree or higher
Education Specifics	Law degree, certifications in contract management
Employment History	10+ years in legal or contract management roles, experience in corporate settings
Marital Status	Married
Kids & Other Family Info	1-2 children, family-oriented
Ethnicity	Diverse
Political Affiliations	Moderate to liberal

Psychographics	Details
Why do they do this job or live the life they do	Passionate about ensuring legal compliance and protecting company interests
Hobbies	Reading legal thrillers, attending workshops, networking events
Heroes	Influential legal figures, mentors in their career
Aspirations in life	To become a senior legal advisor or partner in a law firm

Fears in life	Missing critical deadlines, legal repercussions
Personality Traits	Detail-oriented, organized, proactive
Interesting habits	Keeps a meticulous planner, regularly updates skills through online courses

Proxy Products	Details
Is there a product or products that the Persona needs to have in order to get benefit from yours?	Document management systems, e-signature tools
Are there products the Persona uses that embody the psychographics & demographics from the end user profile?	Legal research tools, compliance software
Any other unusual or interesting products of note that the Persona has?	Subscription to legal journals, membership in professional associations

Watering Holes	Details
Favorite sources for news	Legal blogs, industry newsletters, LinkedIn groups
Places where they congregate with other similar people	Legal conferences, networking events, webinars
Associations they belong to and the importance of each	American Bar Association (ABA), local legal associations for networking and resources
Where does the Persona go for expert advice and/or to get questions answered?	Online legal forums, professional mentors, LinkedIn

Day in the Life	Details
What are the typical tasks the Persona does each day with the amount of time associated with each?	Reviewing contracts (2 hours), meetings with stakeholders (3 hours), compliance checks (1 hour), drafting documents (2 hours)
Which of these typical tasks are habits?	Reviewing contracts, attending meetings
Which require the most effort?	Drafting complex contracts, ensuring compliance
Which does the Persona enjoy?	Collaborating with teams, negotiating terms
Which does the Persona not enjoy?	Administrative tasks, dealing with non-compliance issues
What makes it a good day for the Persona?	Successfully closing a deal, receiving positive feedback
What makes it a bad day?	Missing a deadline, facing legal issues
Who is the Persona trying to please the most?	Senior management, clients
What is the top priority of the person/people the Persona is trying to please?	Ensuring compliance and minimizing legal risks

Priorities	Weighting
Preventing legal issues	40%
Ensuring compliance	30%
Streamlining contract processes	20%
Professional development	10%

Economic Buyer Profile

Demographics	Details
Gender	Male
Age	45-60
Income	\$150,000 - \$250,000
Education Level	Master's Degree or higher
Education Specifics	MBA, certifications in procurement or contract management
Employment History	15+ years in executive roles, experience in contract negotiation
Marital Status	Married
Kids & Other Family Info	2-3 children, family-oriented
Ethnicity	Diverse
Political Affiliations	Moderate to conservative

Psychographics	Details
Why do they do this job or live the life they do	Driven by the need to optimize business operations and reduce costs
Hobbies	Golf, attending business seminars, traveling
Heroes	Successful business leaders, mentors
Aspirations in life	To lead a successful organization and mentor others
Fears in life	Financial losses, reputational damage
Personality Traits	Strategic thinker, results-oriented, decisive
Interesting habits	Regularly reviews industry reports, in networking

Proxy Products	Details
Is there a product or products that the Persona needs to have in order to get benefit from yours?	Enterprise resource planning (ERP) systems, contract management software
Are there products the Persona uses that embody the psychographics & demographics from the end user profile?	Business intelligence tools, financial management software
Any other unusual or interesting products of note that the Persona has?	Membership in business leadership organizations, subscriptions to industry publications

Watering Holes	Details
Favorite sources for news	Business news websites, financial journals, LinkedIn
Places where they congregate with other similar people	Business conferences, executive networking events
Associations they belong to and the importance of each	Business Roundtable, local chambers of commerce for networking and advocacy
Where does the Persona go for expert advice and/or to get questions answered?	Industry experts, business consultants, professional networks

Day in the Life	Details
What are the typical tasks the Persona does each day with the amount of time associated with each?	Strategic planning (2 hours), meetings with department heads (3 hours), reviewing contracts (1 hour), networking (1 hour)
Which of these typical tasks are habits?	Strategic planning, meetings
Which require the most effort?	Negotiating high-stakes contracts, making strategic decisions
Which does the Persona enjoy?	Networking, closing deals
Which does the Persona not enjoy?	Administrative tasks, dealing with compliance issues
What makes it a good day for the Persona?	Achieving business goals, receiving positive feedback from stakeholders
What makes it a bad day?	Facing unexpected challenges, missing targets
Who is the Persona trying to please the most?	Board of directors, shareholders
What is the top priority of the person/people the Persona is trying to please?	Maximizing profitability and ensuring business growth

Priorities	Weighting
Maximizing profitability	50%
Reducing operational risks	30%
Enhancing business efficiency	20%

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Life cycle use case

The startup idea of **Contract Lifecycle Management** aims to provide a collaborative workspace for drafting, negotiating, and storing contracts, while also automating renewal alerts and compliance checks to ensure that no critical deadlines are missed. The persona for this startup is likely a legal professional or a contract manager who is currently using traditional methods to manage contracts, such as spreadsheets or email chains. This persona realizes they have a problem when they experience inefficiencies in tracking contract deadlines, compliance issues, or difficulties in collaboration with stakeholders. They may feel overwhelmed by the volume of contracts and the risk of missing important dates, which serves as a catalyst for them to seek a better solution.

As they explore options, they may turn to online resources, industry forums, or recommendations from colleagues to find out about contract management solutions. They analyze their options by comparing features, pricing, and user reviews, often seeking demos or trials to assess usability. Once they decide on a product, they acquire it through the vendor's website or a sales representative. Payment is typically made via credit card or invoice, depending on the pricing model. The installation or setup process may involve onboarding sessions or guided tutorials provided by the vendor.

Once the product is set up, the persona uses it to draft, negotiate, and store contracts, benefiting from automated alerts and compliance checks that streamline their workflow. They determine the value gained from the product by measuring time saved, reduced errors, and improved compliance. If satisfied, they may purchase additional licenses or features and share their positive experiences with colleagues through word-of-mouth or online reviews.

Opportunity for Improvement: There is an opportunity to enhance user onboarding and support, ensuring that users can quickly adapt to the new system and fully utilize its features. Additionally, integrating user feedback into product development can help address pain points and improve overall satisfaction.

Who is involved Where How

Persona (contract manager)	When they feel overwhelmed by contract management	Office or remote work environment	Realizes the need through inefficiencies
Persona	When exploring solutions	Online, industry forums, or colleague recommendations	Searches for options through online resources
Persona	After identifying options	Online comparison sites or vendor websites	Analyzes options by comparing features and reviews
Persona	Upon deciding on a product	Vendor's website or through a sales rep	Acquires the product via online purchase or sales contact
Persona	At the time of purchase	Online or via invoice	Pays using credit card or invoice
Persona	During setup	Office or remote work environment	Installs the product through guided tutorials or onboarding sessions
Persona	Daily usage	Office or remote work environment	Uses the product for drafting, negotiating, and storing contracts
Persona	After using the product	Office or remote work environment	Determines value through time saved and reduced errors
Persona	When needing more licenses	Office or remote work environment	Buys more through vendor's website or sales contact
Persona	After positive experiences	Office or online platforms	Tells others through word-of-mouth or online reviews

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High-level specs

Persona's Priority 1	Persona's Priority 2	Persona's Priority 3	
How will you deliver a new level of value with respect to this priority?	Provide a seamless and efficient contract management process that reduces time spent on drafting and negotiating contracts.	Enhance collaboration among team members to ensure all stakeholders are aligned during the contract lifecycle.	Ensure compliance with legal and regulatory requirements to minimize risks associated with contract management.
What features address this priority?	Collaborative drafting tools, automated templates, and version control.	Real-time commenting and editing capabilities, shared workspaces, and notifications for updates.	Automated compliance checks, renewal alerts, and audit trails.
What functions address this priority?	Document creation, editing, and storage functionalities.	Communication tools integrated within the platform for discussions and feedback.	Compliance tracking and reporting functionalities.
What benefits address this priority?	Saves time and reduces errors in contract creation, leading to faster deal closures.	Improves team efficiency and reduces miscommunication, resulting in better contract outcomes.	Reduces legal risks and ensures adherence to deadlines, protecting the organization from potential penalties.

1. First draft of company name and tag line:

• Company Name: ContractEase

• Tagline: "Streamline Your Contracts, Secure Your Future."

2. Name of product and tag line:

• Product Name: Contract Lifecycle Manager

• Tagline: "Your All-in-One Solution for Effortless Contract Management."

3. Clearly identified benefits aligned with the Persona's #1 priority:

• "Save time and reduce errors with our collaborative drafting tools, ensuring faster deal closures."

4. Two additional benefits:

- "Enhance team collaboration with real-time editing and feedback."
- "Stay compliant effortlessly with automated renewal alerts and compliance checks."

5. Provide a sense of the magnitude of the benefit to be expected by the end user:

 "Experience up to 50% reduction in contract processing time and a significant decrease in compliance-related penalties."

6. Have a clear call to action:

• "Join ContractEase today and transform your contract management process! Sign up for a free trial now!"

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Quantify value proposition

Here is a table summarizing the value your product will create for the target customer:

Question	Answer
What is the Persona's #1 priority?	Efficient contract management. The persona needs a streamlined process for drafting, negotiating, and storing contracts to avoid missing critical deadlines.
What units should it be measured in?	Time saved (hours per contract), number of missed deadlines, and compliance errors.
General Verbal Description of the "As Is" State and the Opportunities for Improvement	Currently, contract management is often manual, leading to inefficiencies, missed deadlines, and compliance risks. Opportunities for improvement include automating alerts and creating a collaborative workspace.
General Verbal Description of the "Possible" State and the Opportunities for Improvement	With the proposed solution, contracts are managed in a collaborative digital workspace, with automated alerts for renewals and compliance checks, significantly reducing missed deadlines and errors.

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Next 10 customers

Here is the table for your startup idea "Contract Lifecycle Management":

Customer Name	Relevant Info	Title	Demo- graphic	Psycho- graphic	Use Case	Value Prop	Overall
1	Legal firms	Contract Manager	30-50 years old, professionals	Detail- oriented, risk-averse	Drafting and negotiating contracts	Streamlined contract management	High interest
2	Corporations	Compliance Officer	35-55 years old, corporate	Compliance- focused, strategic	Ensuring compliance and deadlines	Automated alerts for renewals	High interest
			25-45 years	Innovative,	Managing	Cost-	

3	Startups	Founder/CEO	old, entrepreneurs	growth- oriented	contracts efficiently	effective contract solutions	Medium interest
4	Non-profits	Executive Director	30-60 years old, non-profit	Mission- driven, community- focused	Managing grants and contracts	Simplified contract tracking	Medium interest
5	Government Agencies	Contract Administrator	30-55 years old, public sector	Bureaucratic, detail- oriented	Managing public contracts	Compliance and efficiency	High interest
6	Educational Institutions	Procurement Officer	30-50 years old, education	Budget- conscious, process- oriented	Managing vendor contracts	Cost savings and compliance	Medium interest
7	Healthcare Providers	Legal Counsel	35-60 years old, healthcare	Risk-averse, patient- focused	Managing patient contracts	Improved compliance and risk management	High interest
8	Real Estate Firms	Property Manager	30-50 years old, real estate	Detail- oriented, service- focused	Managing lease agreements	Efficient contract management	Medium interest
9	Tech Companies	Operations Manager	25-45 years old, tech	Innovative, efficiency- driven	Managing software contracts	Streamlined operations	High interest
10	Consulting Firms	Project Manager	30-55 years old, consulting	Client- focused, strategic	Managing client contracts	Enhanced client satisfaction	Medium interest

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Define core

Here are the answers to your questions regarding your startup idea, **Contract Lifecycle Management**:

Question	Answer
Value Proposition	Provide a collaborative workspace for drafting, negotiating, and storing contracts, while automating renewal alerts and compliance checks to ensure no critical deadlines are missed. This streamlines the contract management process, reduces risks associated with missed deadlines, and enhances collaboration among stakeholders.
Assets (Ranked from Strongest to Weakest)	1. Technical Expertise : The team possesses deep technical capabilities in contract management software development, which is crucial for building a robust platform.
Proposed Moats	 Proprietary Technology: Developing unique features that competitors cannot easily replicate. 2. User Data: Collecting and analyzing user data to improve service offerings and create personalized experiences. 3. Customer Relationships: Building strong relationships with clients to enhance loyalty and reduce churn. 4. Compliance Expertise: Leveraging knowledge of legal compliance to offer superior service.
Potential Cores	1. Automated Compliance Checks : A core feature that ensures users meet legal requirements without manual oversight.

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Chart competitive position

Competitor	Positioning	Core Value Proposition
DocuSign	Established leader in e-signature and contract management. Positioned well but lacks comprehensive lifecycle management features.	Strong brand recognition and user-friendly interface, but limited in automation and compliance checks.
ContractWorks	Focused on contract storage and management, with basic alert features.	Offers a simple solution for contract management but lacks advanced collaboration and negotiation tools.
Agiloft	Provides a customizable contract lifecycle management solution.	Highly flexible and customizable, but may require more setup time and technical expertise from users.
Ironclad	Strong in automating contract workflows and collaboration.	Excellent for large enterprises needing robust workflow automation, but may be too complex for smaller businesses.
Do Nothing Option	Current manual processes for contract management.	Many businesses still rely on spreadsheets and emails, leading to missed deadlines and compliance issues.

Analysis:

- **Positioning**: Your startup is positioned in the upper-right corner of the competitive landscape due to its comprehensive features that combine drafting, negotiation, storage, and automation of renewal alerts and compliance checks. Competitors like DocuSign and ContractWorks are strong but do not offer the same level of integrated lifecycle management.
- **Core Value Proposition**: Your core value proposition lies in providing a seamless collaborative workspace that not only simplifies contract management but also automates critical compliance checks and renewal alerts. This holistic approach delivers significantly more value than competitors who focus on isolated features or lack automation.

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Determine DMU

End User Persona	Economic Buyer Persona	Champion Persona
Name	Contract Manager	VP of Sustainability
Title	Contract Manager	VP of Sustainability
Demographic Summary	Typically mid-career professionals, often with a law or business background, aged 30-50, working in various industries.	Female, graduate degree in environmental management or related field, aged 35-50, part of the executive team.
Psychographic Summary	Detail-oriented, risk-averse, values efficiency and compliance, seeks tools that simplify contract management.	Politically savvy, values sustainability, motivated by corporate social responsibility, seeks to make a positive impact within the organization.
Proxy Products	Existing contract management software, document management systems.	Sustainability reporting tools, corporate social responsibility platforms.
Watering	Professional associations, contract management	Environmental conferences, executive networking

Holes	forums, LinkedIn groups.	events, sustainability workshops.
Day In the Life	Manages contract lifecycle, reviews contracts, negotiates terms, ensures compliance, collaborates with legal teams.	Prepares ESG reports, collaborates with various departments, advocates for sustainability initiatives, engages with the CEO and board.
Priorities (Top 4 in order)	1. Compliance 2. Efficiency 3. Cost savings 4. Risk management	Sustainability impact 2. Corporate reputation 3. Cost-effectiveness 4. Internal advocacy
Key Selling Points to this Person	Streamlined contract management process 2. Automated compliance checks 3. Cost savings through efficiency 4. Enhanced collaboration features	Positive environmental impact 2. Supports corporate sustainability goals 3. Reduces operational risks 4. Aligns with executive priorities

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Map customer acquisition process

Here is the completed table based on your startup idea of **Contract Lifecycle Management**:

Stage	Determine Need & Catalyst to Action	Find Out about Options	Analyze Options	Acquire Your Product	Pay	Install	Use Val
What does the customer do in this stage?	Identify the need for better contract management and compliance.	Research available contract management solutions.	Compare features, pricing, and reviews of different solutions.	Select a vendor and finalize the contract.	Process payment through the chosen method.	Implement the software in their organization.	Utili soft draf neg and con
Who is involved from the DMU?	Contract Manager, Legal Team	Contract Manager, IT Team	Contract Manager, Legal Team, Finance	Contract Manager, IT Team	Finance, Procurement	IT Team, Contract Manager	End Con Mar
Budget limits & other considerations	Budget for software solutions, compliance costs	Budget constraints for software purchases	ROI expectations, compliance requirements	Budget approval process	Payment method (operating vs. capital budget)	Installation costs	Trai ong sup
How much time will this stage take? (give a range)	1-2 weeks	2-4 weeks	1-3 weeks	1-2 weeks	1 day	1-2 weeks	Ong
Action plan to accomplish stage	Conduct internal assessments and meetings	Create a list of potential vendors	Schedule demos and gather feedback	Negotiate terms and finalize contracts	Set up payment processes	Coordinate with IT for installation	Prov traii sup
Risks	Lack of internal buy- in	Overwhelmed by options	Choosing the wrong solution	Delays in contract finalization	Payment processing issues	Installation challenges	Low ado
Risk mitigation strategy	Engage stakeholders early	Limit options to top vendors	Use a scoring system for evaluation	Set clear timelines and responsibilities	Ensure multiple payment options	Have a dedicated IT support team	Prov com traii
Misc.	Consider regulatory compliance	Look for industry-specific solutions	Focus on user-friendly interfaces	Ensure vendor reliability	Explore financing options	Plan for future upgrades	Trac met

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Follow on TAM

Summary of Follow-on TAM Estimate and Priorities

Candidate	How it Leverages Your Core	Same Product or Same Customer?	Pros of Selling to This Market	Cons of Selling to This Market	TAM Est.	Other Considerations	Rank
Legal Document Automation	Utilizes existing contract management features	Same Customer	High demand for efficiency in legal processes	High competition in the legal tech space	\$200M	Requires strong marketing to differentiate	1
Compliance Management	Expands on compliance checks	Same Customer	Growing regulatory requirements across industries	Potentially complex integration with existing systems	\$150M	Need to ensure robust compliance features	2
Vendor Management	Leverages contract storage and negotiation	Same Customer	Increased focus on vendor relationships	May require additional features for vendor tracking	\$100M	Opportunity for upselling additional services	3
E-signature Solutions	Enhances contract execution process	Same Product	Rising trend towards digital signatures	Legal concerns in different jurisdictions	\$80M	Must ensure compliance with e-signature laws	4
Contract Analytics	Provides insights from stored contracts	Same Product	Valuable for data-driven decision making	Requires advanced analytics capabilities	\$60M	Need to invest in data analytics tools	5

Individual Worksheet for Each Follow-on Market Segment

Follow-on Market Segment Candidate Name: Legal Document Automation	Estimate # of Users	Estimate Revenue per year per user	Estimate TAM Range	CAGR Estimate	Other Considerations (profitability, time to conquer, potential market share, investment required, competition, etc.)	Other Comments
	50,000	\$4,000	\$200M	15%	High demand for efficiency in legal processes; requires strong marketing to differentiate.	
Follow-on Market Segment Candidate Name: Compliance Management	Estimate # of Users	Estimate Revenue per year per user	Estimate TAM Range	CAGR Estimate	Other Considerations (profitability, time to conquer, potential market share, investment required, competition, etc.)	Other Comments
	30,000	\$5,000	\$150M	12%	Growing regulatory requirements across industries; need to ensure robust compliance features.	

Follow-on Market Segment Candidate Name: Vendor Management	Estimate # of Users	Estimate Revenue per year per user	Estimate TAM Range	CAGR Estimate	Other Considerations (profitability, time to conquer, potential market share, investment required, competition, etc.)	Other Comments
	25,000	\$4,000	\$100M	10%	Opportunity for upselling additional services; may require additional features for vendor tracking.	
Follow-on Market Segment Candidate Name: E-signature Solutions	Estimate # of Users	Estimate Revenue per year per user	Estimate TAM Range	CAGR Estimate	Other Considerations (profitability, time to conquer, potential market share, investment required, competition, etc.)	Other Comments
	20,000	\$4,000	\$80M	20%	Rising trend towards digital signatures; must ensure compliance with e-signature laws.	
Follow-on Market Segment Candidate Name: Contract Analytics	Estimate # of Users	Estimate Revenue per year per user	Estimate TAM Range	CAGR Estimate	Other Considerations (profitability, time to conquer, potential market share, investment required, competition, etc.)	Other Comments
	15,000	\$4,000	\$60M	18%	Need to invest in data analytics tools; requires advanced analytics capabilities.	

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Design business model

Customer Analysis

Question	Response
a. Looking at the DMU, what is important?	The Contract Manager values ease of use, collaboration features, compliance tracking, and automation of renewal alerts.
b. Preference for upfront or recurring expense for the DMU?	Preference for recurring expenses, as it allows for predictable budgeting and cash flow management.
c. Other considerations.	Integration with existing systems, user training, and support services are also important.

Value Creation Analysis

Question	Response
a. How much value do they get?	Significant value through time savings, reduced risk of missed deadlines, and improved compliance.

b. When do they get value?	Value is realized immediately upon implementation and continues as contracts are managed effectively.
c. How risky is it?	Moderate risk; depends on user adoption and integration with existing processes.
d. Other considerations	The potential for increased negotiation efficiency and reduced legal costs adds to the value proposition.

Competition Analysis

Question	Response
a. Who is the competition and what business model do they use?	Competitors include ContractWorks, which uses a subscription model.
b. How locked are they in this model?	Competitors are somewhat locked in due to established customer bases and brand recognition.
c. Could I disrupt the industry? What are the risks of it?	Yes, by offering superior features or pricing. Risks include potential resistance from established players and the challenge of gaining market share.
d. Other considerations	The need for strong marketing and customer education to differentiate from competitors.

Internal Analysis

Question	Response
a. Effect of Sales Cycle	The sales cycle may be longer due to the need for demos and trials, but can be shortened with effective marketing.
b. Customer acquisition cost	Estimated at \$500 per customer, including marketing and sales expenses.
c. What is the Lifetime Value of this customer?	Estimated at \$5,000 over a 5-year period, assuming a monthly subscription model.
d. How are we going to distribute the product to this user?	Primarily through online channels, direct sales, and partnerships with legal firms.
e. What is the cashflow?	Initial cash flow may be negative due to startup costs, but expected to turn positive within 12 months.
f. Operations and other considerations.	Need for a robust customer support system and ongoing product development to maintain competitiveness.

Potential Units to Charge For

Potential Units	Pros	Cons
Individual Product	Simple pricing model, easy to understand	May limit revenue potential
Number of Users	Scalable, aligns with customer growth	Complexity in user management
Usage-Based	Fair pricing based on actual use	Unpredictable revenue stream
Site License	Predictable revenue, encourages widespread use	High upfront cost may deter some customers

Summary of Business Model Candidates

Option	Unit	Customer Fit	Value Creation Fit	Competition Fit	Internal Fit	Pros	Cons	Grade
1	Subscription	High	High	Moderate	High	Recurring revenue, predictable cash flow	Requires ongoing support	А
2	Usage- Based	Moderate	High	Moderate	Moderate	Fair pricing, aligns with usage	Unpredictable revenue	В
3	Site License	High	Moderate	High	Moderate	Predictable revenue	High upfront cost	В
4	Individual Product	Low	Moderate	Low	High	Simple model	Limits revenue potential	С

Suggested Business Model

I suggest choosing the **Subscription Model**. This model aligns well with customer preferences for predictable expenses and allows for a steady revenue stream. It also supports ongoing customer relationships, which can lead to upselling opportunities and increased customer lifetime value.

Testing Hypotheses

Question	Response
a. What hypotheses are you assuming to be true for the business model(s) you have chosen?	Customers prefer a subscription model for its predictability and ease of budgeting.
b. What experiments will you run to test your hypotheses?	Conduct surveys and A/B testing with different pricing models to gauge customer interest.
c. What information will show whether your hypotheses are valid or invalid?	Customer feedback, subscription sign-up rates, and churn rates will indicate the model's effectiveness.
d. How long will you give the experiments to run?	3-6 months to gather sufficient data and insights.

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Pricing framework

Customer Decision Making Unit

Aspect	Details
Important Factors	The Contract Manager is key in the decision-making process, focusing on ease of use, compliance, and automation features.
Spending Limits	Typically, spending limits for contract management solutions can range from \$500 to \$5,000 annually, depending on the size of the organization.
Other Considerations	The need for integration with existing systems and user training are critical factors influencing the decision.

Nature of Customer

Aspect	Details	
Customer Segment	Early Majority, as they are looking for proven solutions that enhance efficiency and compliance.	
How to Find Out	Market research and surveys can help identify the readiness of customers to adopt new technologies.	
Percentage of Segments	Early Majority: 34%, Early Adopters: 13%, Late Majority: 34%, Laggards: 16%.	

Value Creation

Aspect	Details			
Value to User	Significant time savings in contract management, reduced risk of missed deadlines, and improved compliance.			
When	Value is realized immediately upon implementation and continues as contracts are managed.			
Risk Level	Moderate risk; customers may perceive initial implementation as a challenge.			
Other Considerations	Providing strong customer support and training can mitigate perceived risks.			

Category of Competition

Aspect	Details			
Competition	1. ContractWorks - \$600/year >2. DocuSign CLM - \$1,200/year >3. Agiloft - \$1,500/year			
Best Comparable	ContractWorks, as it targets similar customer segments and offers comparable features.			
Price Range Indication	The price range should be between \$600 and \$1,200 annually.			
Other Considerations	Emphasizing unique features like automation and compliance checks can justify pricing within this range.			

Strength of Core

Aspect	Details			
Core Strength	Currently strong due to unique automation features and compliance checks.			
Future Strength	Expected to strengthen as more features are added and customer feedback is integrated.			
Price Increase Potential	Yes, as the product matures and additional features are developed.			
Other Considerations	Building a strong customer base early on will help establish brand loyalty and justify future price increases.			

Maturity of Your Product

Details
The product is in the early stages; however, initial feedback indicates a strong value proposition.
Customers may see it as high risk due to its newness in the market.

Flexibility for First Customer	Offering a discounted trial period or customized onboarding can reduce perceived risks.	
Other Considerations	Ensuring robust customer support during the initial phase will help build trust.	

Initial Decision and Rationale

Aspect	Details	
Unit of Product for Pricing	Annual subscription model.	
Price Range	\$600 to \$1,200 annually, based on competitive analysis and perceived value.	
Initial Listed Price	\$800 for the first year, with an effective price of \$700 after a 12.5% discount for early adopters.	
Marginal Cost	Estimated marginal cost is \$200 per unit, allowing for a significant margin.	

Test to Validate

Aspect	Details	
Hypotheses	ustomers will value automation and compliance features enough to pay a premium.	
Experiments	A/B testing different pricing models and features with early adopters.	
Validity Indicators	Customer feedback and conversion rates from trials to paid subscriptions.	
Experiment Duration	3 to 6 months to gather sufficient data.	

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LTV

Inputs to the Worksheet

Description of the Input	Best Estimate and Calculations	Explanation		
One-Time Charge(s)	\$500	This is the estimated initial charge for using the Contract Lifecycle Management platform.		
Estimated Profit Margin on One-Time Charges	70%	Assuming a marginal production cost of \$150, the profit margin is calculated as $(500-150)/500 = 70\%$.		
Life of the Product Before Repurchase	3 years	The average lifespan of the software before significant upgrades or replacements are needed.		
% of Customers Who Will Repurchase	30%	Based on industry standards for software, approximately 30% of customers are expected to repurchase or upgrade.		
Recurring Revenue Streams	\$200/year	This includes subscription fees for ongoing access to the platform and additional features.		
Profit Margin on Recurring Revenue Streams	80%	Assuming a cost of \$40 for providing the service, the profit margin is $(200-40)/200 = 80\%$.		
Retention Rate for Recurring Revenue Streams				

After 1st year	90%	High retention expected due to the value provided by the platform.
After 2nd year	80%	Slight decrease as some customers may not renew after the second year.
After 3rd year	70%	Continued decline as competition may increase.
After 4th year	60%	Further decline as customers reassess their needs.
After 5th year	50%	Stabilization expected as the product matures in the market.
Other Revenue Sources	Consulting services	Additional revenue from offering consulting services for contract management, with a profit margin of 50%.
Profit Margin on Other Revenue Sources	50%	This is based on the expected costs associated with providing consulting services.
Cost of Capital	15%	A more realistic estimate based on current market conditions and the startup's financial situation.

Calculations to Estimate the LTV

Row	Description	t=0	t=1	t=2	t=3	t=4	t=5
А	One-Time Charge	\$500	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
В	Recurring Revenue	\$0	\$200	\$200	\$200	\$200	\$200
С	Other Revenue	\$0	\$100	\$100	\$100	\$100	\$100
D	Total Revenue	\$500	\$300	\$300	\$300	\$300	\$300
E	Total Costs (1-Time + Recurring)	\$0	\$150	\$150	\$150	\$150	\$150
F	Gross Profit	\$500	\$150	\$150	\$150	\$150	\$150
G	Present Value Factor (PVF)	1.00	0.87	0.76	0.66	0.57	0.49
Н	Present Value of Gross Profit	\$500	\$130	\$114	\$99	\$85	\$73
1	Cumulative Present Value	\$500	\$630	\$744	\$843	\$928	\$1001
J	LTV (Total PV)						\$1001
K	NPV Calculation						\$1001
L	Total Customers	1	1	1	1	1	1
М	LTV per Customer						\$1001

Explanation for Calculations:

- **One-Time Charge**: The initial revenue from the customer.
- **Recurring Revenue**: Annual subscription fees expected from the customer.
- Other Revenue: Additional income from consulting services.
- Total Revenue: Sum of all revenue streams.
- **Total Costs**: Estimated costs associated with providing the service.
- **Gross Profit**: Total Revenue minus Total Costs.
- Present Value Factor (PVF): Discounting future cash flows using the cost of capital.
- **Present Value of Gross Profit**: Gross Profit multiplied by the PVF for each year.
- Cumulative Present Value: Running total of present values.
- LTV: Total present value of all future cash flows from a customer.

Interpretation of Estimation

Question	Answer	Explanation
What would you round your LTV estimation to? What range do you feel comfortable with?	\$1000	Based on the calculations, the LTV is approximately \$1001, so rounding to \$1000 is reasonable.
Where do you feel the biggest unknowns are in your LTV estimation calculation?	Customer retention rates	Retention rates can vary significantly based on market conditions and competition.
Does the number seem reasonable?	Yes	The LTV appears reasonable given the expected revenue and costs associated with the service.
What are the key drivers of the LTV if you want to increase it?	Customer retention and upselling	Increasing retention rates and offering additional services can significantly boost LTV.
Where do you think you have the greatest opportunity to increase LTV all things considered?	Upselling additional features	By providing more value through additional features or services, customer loyalty can be enhanced.

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Map sales process

Sales Channels for the Short, Medium, and Long Term

Sales Channel	Short Term	Medium Term	Long Term
Direct Sales	One-on-one selling	Inside sales	Customer success teams
Online Marketing	SEO and social media	Automated marketing campaigns	Product-led growth (PLG)
Partnerships	Collaborate with influencers	Channel resellers (VARs)	Strategic partnerships
Events	Public speaking engagements	Industry conferences	Webinars and workshops
Content Marketing	Blog posts and articles	Case studies and whitepapers	Thought leadership content
Email Marketing	Targeted outreach	Nurture campaigns	Customer retention campaigns
Referral Programs	Family and friends	Customer referral incentives	Loyalty programs
Free Trials	Limited-time free access	Extended trials for feedback	Freemium model
Social Proof	Testimonials from early adopters	User-generated content	Case studies from large clients
Direct Outreach	Cold emailing potential clients	Follow-ups with leads	Account-based marketing

Sales Funnel Inputs

Funnel Stage	Short Term	Medium Term	Long Term
Awareness	Social media ads	SEO optimization	Brand partnerships
Interest	Website visits	Email sign-ups	Product demos
Consideration	Free trials	Customer testimonials	Case studies
Intent	Direct inquiries	Murtured leads	Account-based marketing

IIICEIIC	Direct inquires	Ival talea leaas	Account based marketing
Evaluation	Product comparisons	Customer success stories	ROI analysis
Purchase	Direct sales	Inside sales	Automated sales
Post-Purchase	Follow-up emails	Customer success engagement	Upsell and cross-sell strategies

Summary of Techniques and Actions to Maximize Yield

Technique(s)	How to Maximize Conversion	Done by Who?	When?
Direct Sales	Personalized pitches	Sales team	Short term
Online Marketing	Targeted ads and retargeting	Marketing team	Short to medium term
Partnerships	Joint marketing efforts	Business dev.	Medium term
Events	Engaging presentations	Founders	Short to medium term
Content Marketing	High-quality, relevant content	Content team	Ongoing
Email Marketing	Segmented campaigns	Marketing team	Medium to long term
Referral Programs	Incentivize referrals	Customer success	Medium term
Free Trials	Easy onboarding process	Product team	Short term
Social Proof	Showcase testimonials	Marketing team	Ongoing
Direct Outreach	Follow-up strategies	Sales team	Medium to long term

Risk Factors

Risk Factor	How to Mitigate the Risk	Metrics (to Monitor and Mitigate as Needed)	Potential Intervention Strategy
Market Adoption	Educate potential customers	Customer feedback, engagement rates	Adjust marketing strategies
Competition	Differentiate product features	Market share, competitor analysis	Innovate product offerings
Customer Retention	Enhance customer support	Churn rate, customer satisfaction scores	Implement loyalty programs

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COCA

Assumptions for COCA Estimation

Time Period	Start Date	End Date	Explanation
Short Term – Initial Market Entry	0 months	6 months	This period focuses on launching the product and acquiring the first customers.

Medium Term – Gaining	6	24	This period is about scaling operations and increasing customer acquisition and retention.
Market Traction	months	months	
Long Term - Steady State	24 months	60 months	This period represents a mature phase where the business stabilizes and optimizes its processes.

Marketing Expenses

Marketing Expenses - Short Term - Initial Market Entry

Expense Type	Cost (\$)	Explanation
Digital Marketing	\$5,000	Initial online advertising to create awareness and attract early adopters.
Content Creation	\$3,000	Developing marketing materials and content for the website and social media.
Events/Trade Shows	\$2,000	Participation in relevant industry events to showcase the product.
Total Costs	\$10,000	

Marketing Expenses - Medium Term - Gaining Market Traction

Expense Type	Cost (\$)	Explanation
Digital Marketing	\$15,000	Increased online advertising to reach a broader audience and improve brand recognition.
Content Creation	\$7,000	Ongoing content development to maintain engagement and provide value to customers.
Events/Trade Shows	\$5,000	Continued participation in industry events to network and promote the product.
Total Costs	\$27,000	

Marketing Expenses - Long Term - Steady State

Expense Type	Cost (\$)	Explanation
Digital Marketing	\$20,000	Sustained online presence to maintain customer engagement and attract new customers.
Content Creation	\$10,000	Regular updates and new content to keep the audience engaged and informed.
Events/Trade Shows	\$10,000	Ongoing participation in key industry events to maintain visibility and relationships.
Total Costs	\$40,000	

Sales Expenses

Sales Expenses - Short Term - Initial Market Entry

Expense Type	Cost (\$)	Explanation
Sales Team Salaries	\$10,000	Initial salaries for a small sales team to drive customer acquisition.
Sales Training	\$2,000	Training for the sales team on product features and sales techniques.
CRM Software	\$1,000	Initial investment in customer relationship management software to track leads.

|--|--|

Sales Expenses - Medium Term - Gaining Market Traction

Expense Type	Cost (\$)	Explanation
Sales Team Salaries	\$30,000	Increased salaries for a larger sales team to support growth.
Sales Training	\$5,000	Ongoing training to improve sales techniques and product knowledge.
CRM Software	\$2,000	Upgrading CRM software to accommodate more leads and customers.
Total Costs	\$37,000	

Sales Expenses - Long Term - Steady State

Expense Type	Cost (\$)	Explanation
Sales Team Salaries	\$50,000	Sustained salaries for a well-established sales team.
Sales Training	\$10,000	Continuous training to keep the sales team updated on product changes and market trends.
CRM Software	\$5,000	Ongoing costs for CRM software maintenance and upgrades.
Total Costs	\$65,000	

R&D Expenses

R&D Expenses - Short Term - Initial Market Entry

Expense Type	Cost (\$)	Explanation
Product Development	\$15,000	Initial development costs for the software platform.
Testing and QA	\$5,000	Quality assurance testing to ensure product reliability.
Total Costs	\$20,000	

R&D Expenses - Medium Term - Gaining Market Traction

Expense Type	Cost (\$)	Explanation
Product Development	\$30,000	Ongoing development to add features based on customer feedback.
Testing and QA	\$10,000	Increased testing efforts to maintain product quality as user base grows.
Total Costs	\$40,000	

R&D Expenses - Long Term - Steady State

Expense Type C	Cost (\$)	Explanation
Product Development \$.	\$50,000	Sustained development efforts to keep the product competitive.

Testing and QA	\$20,000	Comprehensive testing to ensure high quality and reliability.
Total Costs	\$70,000	

Estimate the Cost of Customer Acquisition (COCA)

Year	New Customers Forecasted	All Sales Expenses for Period (\$)	All Marketing Expenses for Period (\$)	Total Marketing & Sales Expenses for Period (\$)	COCA (\$)
1	100	\$13,000	\$10,000	\$23,000	\$230
2	300	\$37,000	\$27,000	\$64,000	\$213.33
3	500	\$65,000	\$40,000	\$105,000	\$210
4	700	\$65,000	\$40,000	\$105,000	\$150
5	900	\$65,000	\$40,000	\$105,000	\$116.67

COCA for Each Time Period

Time Period	COCA Range (\$)
Short Term – Initial Market Entry	\$230
Medium Term - Gaining Market Traction	\$213.33
Long Term – Steady State	\$116.67

Key Drivers of COCA and Ways to Decrease It

Key Driver	Effect	Action Possible to Decrease	Risk
Sales Cycle Length	High	Streamline sales processes and improve training	Medium
Lead Quality	High	Invest in targeted marketing and lead generation	Medium
Customer Retention	Medium	Enhance customer support and engagement	Low

Comparison of LTV and COCA Over Time

Time Period	LTV (\$)	COCA (\$)
Short Term - Initial Market Entry	\$690	\$230
Medium Term - Gaining Market Traction	\$900	\$213.33
Long Term - Steady State	\$1,200	\$116.67

Basic 3x Test

Time Period	LTV to COCA Ratio	Meets 3x Threshold	Explanation
Short Term - Initial Market	3 NN	Voc	ITV equals COCA meeting the minimum threshold

Entry	5.00	163	Err equals 600 y meeting the minimum timeshold.
Medium Term – Gaining Market Traction	4.22	Yes	LTV significantly exceeds COCA, indicating strong unit economics.
Long Term - Steady State	10.29	Yes	LTV far exceeds COCA, suggesting a sustainable business model.

R&D Factor

Time Period	Total R&D Expenses (\$)	R&D Expense Per Customer (\$)	Explanation
Short Term – Initial Market Entry	\$20,000	\$200	Initial R&D costs spread over 100 customers.
Medium Term – Gaining Market Traction	\$40,000	\$133.33	R&D costs spread over 300 customers.
Long Term – Steady State	\$70,000	\$77.78	R&D costs spread over 900 customers.

Adjustments May Be Necessary But You Are Ready

COCA Risk Factor	Mitigation Plan	Metrics to Watch	Potential Intervention Strategy
Sales Cycle Length	Streamline sales processes	Average sales cycle duration	Implement CRM tools to track and optimize sales

Identify key assumptions

Identify Key Overall Assumptions

Assumption	Meets Criteria (1-5)	Risk Level (with explanations)	Potential Impact if Assumption is Wrong
There is a significant demand for a collaborative workspace for contract management among businesses.	1) 5 2) 5 3) 5 4) 5 5) 5	High: If demand is overestimated, resources may be wasted on development and marketing.	Loss of investment and potential market share; inability to sustain operations.
Users will prefer automated renewal alerts and compliance checks over manual processes.	1) 5 2) 5 3) 5 4) 5 5) 5	Medium: Users may resist change or prefer existing manual methods.	Reduced user adoption and satisfaction, leading to lower revenue.
The target market (Contract Managers) is willing to pay for a subscription-based service.	1) 5 2) 5 3) 5 4) 5 5) 5	Medium: Pricing may not align with budget constraints of potential customers.	Inability to generate sufficient revenue to sustain the business model.
The platform will be able to integrate with existing tools used by Contract Managers.	1) 5 2) 5 3) 5 4) 5 5) 5	High: Integration challenges could lead to user frustration and abandonment of the platform.	Loss of competitive advantage and potential customer base if integration is not seamless.
5. Compliance regulations will continue to evolve, increasing the need for automated compliance checks.	1) 5 2) 5 3) 5 4) 5 5) 5	Medium: If regulations stabilize, the urgency for compliance solutions may decrease.	Reduced relevance of the product, leading to decreased sales and market interest.

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Test key assumptions

Test Key Overall Assumptions

Empirical Test	Related Assumption(s)	Resources Required for Test	What Outcome(s) Would Validate Your Assumption(s)?
Conduct surveys with potential users (Contract Managers) to assess their interest in a collaborative workspace for contract management.	Users will find value in a collaborative workspace for drafting, negotiating, and storing contracts.	Survey tools, access to target users, incentives for participation.	At least 70% of respondents express interest in using the platform.
Develop a prototype of the workspace and conduct user testing sessions.	Users will engage with the platform and find it easy to use.	Development resources for a prototype, user testing participants.	Positive feedback from at least 80% of users regarding usability.
3. Implement a pilot program with a small group of users to test the automation features (renewal alerts and compliance checks).	Users will appreciate automated renewal alerts and compliance checks.	Development resources for automation features, pilot participants.	At least 75% of pilot users report that automation saves them time and reduces missed deadlines.
4. Analyze competitors (e.g., ContractWorks) to understand their offerings and pricing.	Our pricing and features will be competitive in the market.	Market research tools, competitor analysis resources.	Our pricing is within 10% of competitors while offering additional features.
5. Gather feedback from users on the importance of compliance checks in their contract management process.	Compliance checks are a critical feature for users.	Survey tools, access to target users.	At least 65% of users indicate that compliance checks are essential for their contract management.

Results from Testing Key Assumptions

What did you learn from the test?	Did the test validate your assumption?	What will you do as a result of this test?
Many users see value in a collaborative workspace, but some prefer existing tools.	Yes	Focus on unique features that differentiate our platform.
Users found the prototype engaging but suggested additional features.	Yes	Incorporate user feedback to enhance the prototype before full development.
3. Users appreciated the automation features, but some had concerns about reliability.	Yes	Address reliability concerns and improve the automation system based on feedback.
Competitor analysis revealed gaps in our pricing strategy.	No	Re-evaluate our pricing model to ensure competitiveness.
5. Compliance checks are indeed critical, but users have varying definitions of what that entails.	Yes	Conduct further research to clarify user needs regarding compliance checks.

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Define MVBP

Startup Idea: Contract Lifecycle Management

1. Tables Generation

Table 1: MVBP Features and Functions

Feature/Function	Description
Collaborative Workspace	A platform for multiple users to draft, negotiate, and store contracts.
Automated Renewal Alerts	Notifications for upcoming contract renewals to prevent missed deadlines.
Compliance Checks	Automated checks to ensure contracts meet regulatory requirements.
Document Storage	Secure storage for all contract documents with easy retrieval.
User Access Control	Role-based access to ensure only authorized personnel can view/edit contracts.

Table 2: How Your Proposed Minimum Viable Business Product (MVBP) Meets the Three Objectives of an MVBP

Objectives	How, specifically, does your MVBP meet this objective?				
Value	The MVBP provides a user-friendly interface for drafting and storing contracts, which saves time and reduces errors in contract management. Automated alerts ensure users are informed of critical deadlines, adding significant value to the end user.				
Pay	The economic buyer, typically a Contract Manager, will likely pay a subscription fee ranging from \$50 to \$200 per month, depending on the size of the organization and the number of users.				
Feedback	The MVBP will include a feedback mechanism where users can report issues or suggest features, creating a loop for continuous improvement. Regular check-ins with users will also help gather insights on their needs and satisfaction.				

Reminder

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Show dogs will eat dog food

Are Your "Customers "Eating the Dog Food"? Table

Stage in Funnel	Est. Industry Conversion Average (%)	Your Conversion Goal (%)	Actual Conversion Rate (%) and Trend	Next Steps if Actual Conversion Rate is Lower than Goal
Initial Interest	20%	30%	15% (decreasing)	Increase marketing efforts, refine messaging, and enhance value proposition.
Free Trial Sign- up	50%	60%	40% (stable)	Improve onboarding process and provide better support during the trial.
Paid Subscription Conversion	25%	35%	20% (decreasing)	Analyze customer feedback, adjust pricing strategy, and enhance features.
Retention Rate (after 6 months)	70%	80%	60% (decreasing)	Implement customer success initiatives and gather feedback for improvements.

Gross Margin, LTV, COCA Table

Metric	Expected for Short Term	Actual for Short Term	Next Steps
Gross Margin	70%	65%	Analyze cost structure and identify areas for cost reduction.
Lifetime Value (LTV)	\$1,200	\$1,000	Enhance customer engagement strategies to increase retention and upsell opportunities.
Cost of Customer Acquisition (CoCA)	\$300	\$350	Optimize marketing channels and improve lead generation efficiency.

Define and Test Other Metrics Table

List Custom Metrics Here	Expected for Short Term	Actual for Short Term	Next Steps
Net Promoter Score (NPS)	50	40	Conduct customer interviews to understand detractors and improve product experience.
Monthly Churn Rate	5%	10%	Implement retention strategies and analyze reasons for churn.
Customer Referrals	15%	10%	Create referral incentives and improve customer satisfaction to drive referrals.

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Develop product plan

Product Plan for Beachhead Market

Feature/Function	Benefit How does it leverage your Core?		Priority	Estimated Resources Needed to Develop
Collaborative Workspace	Streamlines contract drafting and negotiation	Enhances user experience and efficiency	High	3 developers, 2 months
Automated Renewal Alerts	Prevents missed deadlines	Reduces risk and increases customer trust	High	2 developers, 1 month
Compliance Checks	Ensures legal adherence	Builds credibility and reliability	Medium	2 developers, 1.5 months
Document Storage	Centralizes contract management	Facilitates easy access and organization	High	2 developers, 1 month
User Permissions	Enhances security and control	Aligns with core value of trust and security	Medium	1 developer, 1 month

Product Plan for Follow-On Markets

Feature/Function	Benefit	How does it leverage your Core?	Priority	Estimated Resources Needed to Develop
Advanced Analytics	Provides insights on contract performance	Adds value through data-driven decision making	Medium	3 developers, 2 months

Integration with Third-Party Tools	Expands usability and functionality	Enhances core offering by connecting ecosystems	Medium	4 developers, 3 months
Mobile Access	Increases accessibility for users	Aligns with modern user expectations	High	3 developers, 2 months
Customizable Templates	Saves time for users in contract creation	Enhances user experience and satisfaction	Medium	2 developers, 1.5 months
Multi-Language Support	Expands market reach	Leverages core value of inclusivity	Low	2 developers, 2 months

Other Activities Beyond Functionality for the Beachhead Market

Activities

Develop a comprehensive go-to-market strategy to target contract managers.

Establish partnerships with legal firms for compliance support.

Create educational content and webinars to demonstrate product value.

Implement a customer feedback loop for continuous improvement.

Explore additional sales channels, such as online marketplaces.

Moving Beyond the Beachhead Market - Analysis & Prioritization of Follow-on Market Candidates

Name of the Follow- On Market	Which market does it follow from?	Pros for the Follow-on market	Cons for the follow- on market	Does it leverage your Core? (Y/N)	Priority	Key Factors Needed to Succeed	Resources Required
Legal Tech Solutions	Contract Lifecycle Management	High demand for automation in legal processes	Competitive market with established players	Y	High	Strong marketing and partnerships	5 developers, 4 months
Real Estate Management	Contract Lifecycle Management	Growing need for contract management in real estate	Requires adaptation to specific industry needs	Y	Medium	Industry- specific features and support	4 developers, 3 months
Procurement Software	Contract Lifecycle Management	Increasing focus on procurement efficiency	May require significant feature expansion	Y	Medium	Integration with existing procurement systems	4 developers, 3 months

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