



The Trusted Source for Official Company Information

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Easy Access to Business Background Information

kompany is a 3 year old Vienna based company with the aim of providing access to global, official corporate information enhanced by other official data (e.g. Announcements, Patents, Trademarks), 3rd party researched data (e.g. Credit Reports and Scores), and other data from a variety of sources, but always with a base of official data.

We take information from these sources, consolidate, merge and enhance adding value in the process and then provide access through our multilingual multicurrency website (www.kompany.com) and our API (brex.io).

This makes Open Data initiatives very interesting to us from a data access and commercial point of view. Often the data we want is inaccessible, accessible only through non-automated methods, or only available at exorbitant costs.

Official, legally correct information is the bedrock of our business model – it is the basis we use for providing accurate, useful, timely and cost-effective information and services. Open data does, however, bring with it a set of

Easy Access to Business Background Information

kompany is NOT:

Associated with Vincent Kompany!

A yellow pages site

Just a reseller of credit reports

kompany IS:

An enabler for consumers, businesses, government agencies and departments to **Verify, **Evaluate** and **Validate****

Themselves

Suppliers

Customers

Partners

Applicants

kompany aims to be:

The global clearing house for official corporate register data

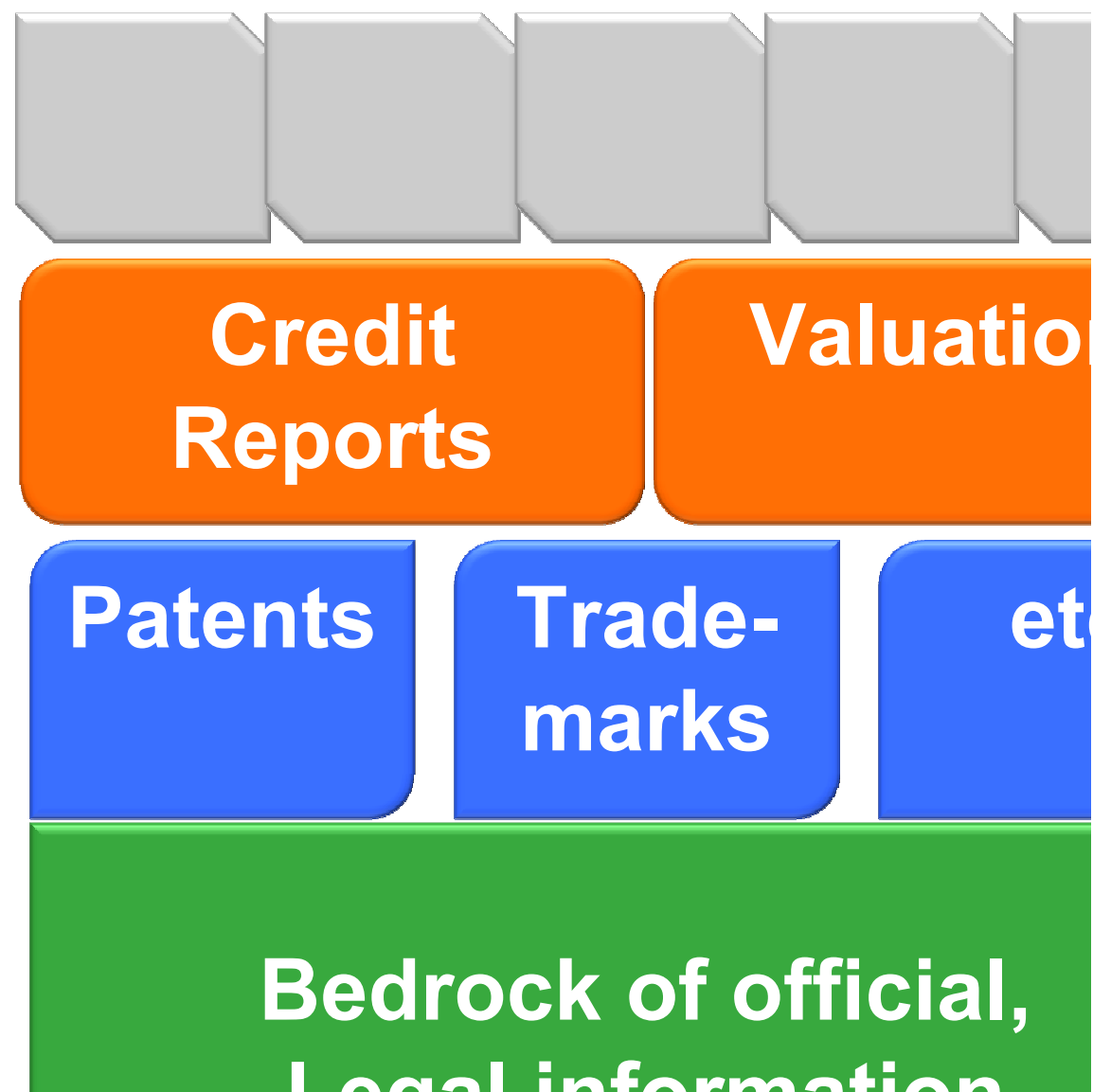
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Other sources (web, 3rd party, social media etc)

3rd Party researched Information

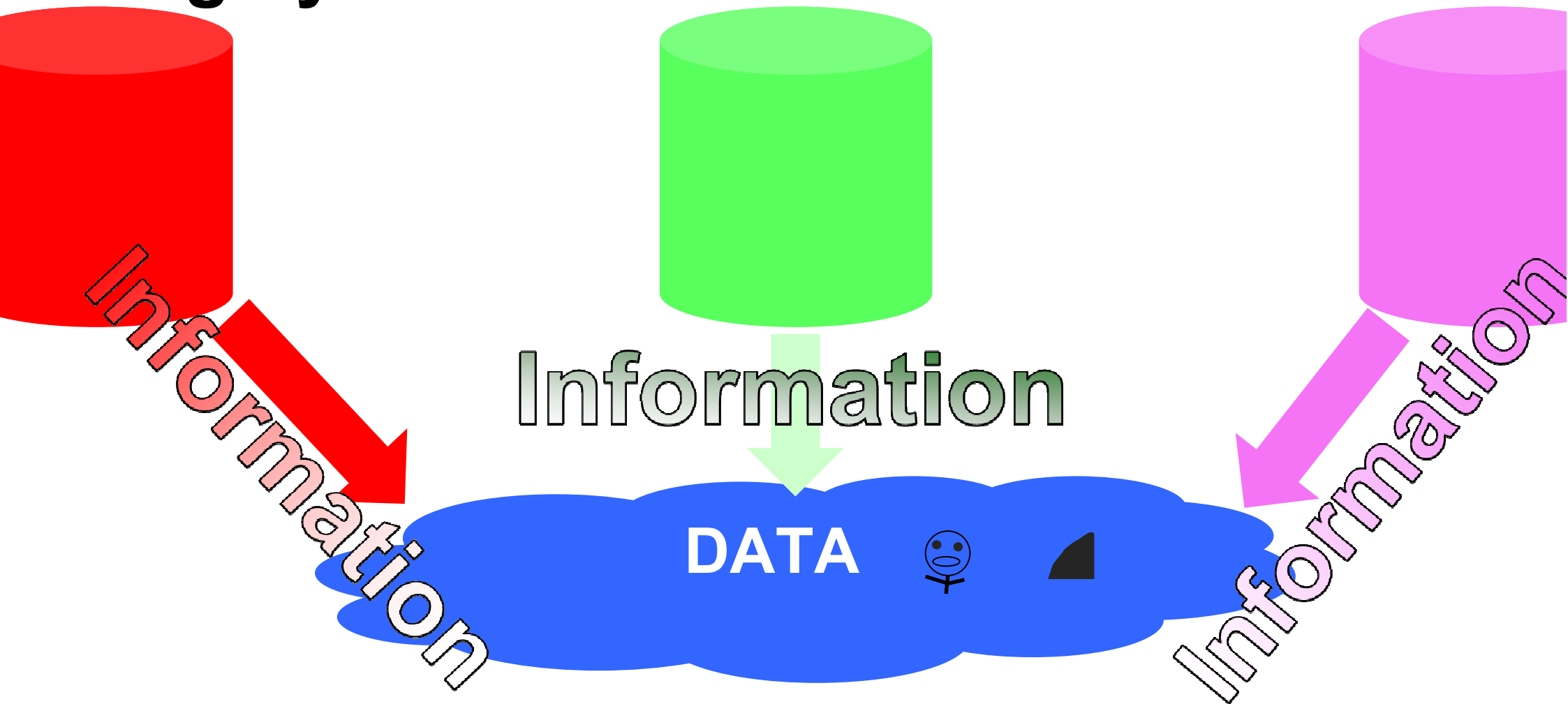
Non-corporate register but official information

Direct or indirect connections to corporate registers of 28 countries, US States with agreements in



Turning data back into information

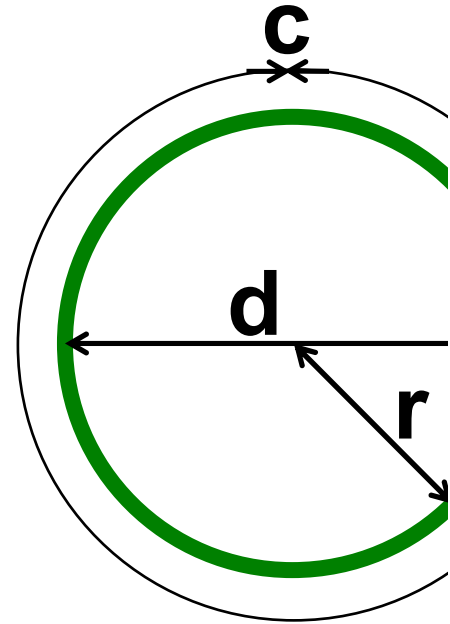
Highly contextual silos of information



When information is taken out of a silo, we run the risk of losing the context, and a mass of information without context is just a sea of data – in the same way as a library with

but Context is Key

$$c=2\pi r \quad \text{or} \quad c=\pi d$$



Lets add some context: **GEOMETRY**

“The ratio of a circle’s circumference to its diameter is a constant called pi”

ss context: ~~GEOMETRY~~ → **MATHEMATICS**

$$c:d = \pi \approx 3.141592654$$

en Less context: ~~GEOMETRY~~ → ~~MATHEMATICS~~ → **DATA**

of a company?

For an Austrian GmbH this will be a Geschäftsführer, which would translate in English to “Managing Director”

For a UK Limited this will be an Officer of type Director – which is not necessarily the same as a Managing Director, a Managing Director might run the company but not necessarily have the legal responsibilities of a Director. Managing Director is really just a job title in this context.

So – can we use Geschäftsführer on the German language version of our website when talking about a UK Limited company? Yes – because we know the expected context is the legally responsible person. As long as we show a UK Director as a Geschäftsführer we have successfully mapped the contexts and displayed the expected result.

Another pertinent example might be to have a credit score for a company of 5, without any idea of the allowed range. Is it 5 out of 5, or 5 out of 100?

What is context in this context?

The OED defines context as:

The circumstances that form the setting for an event, statement or idea, and in terms of which it can be fully understood”

Which for our use could be given a more technical definition of:

The data elements and relationships including their meaning and limits, that pertain to an entity and in terms of which it can be fully understood”

It is important to recognise that context is not just a function of what information is available, but is also altered by our personal expectations, knowledge and preconceptions.

Retrieve → **Analyze** → **Transform** → **Store** → **Enhance** → **Play**

consistency between information providers on access methods, access protocols, data formats, authentication mechanisms, etc. Essentially every provider has a different interface, and for countries like the US, each State potentially has a different interface

we built an extensible toolbox of interfaces including:

XML over REST

SOAP

HTTPS scraping

JSON over REST

HTTP scraping

XML file

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Although there is some commonality in terminology and data structures, these tend to be aligned along language and cultural lines in the case of different countries and technical lines in the case of e.g. the US.

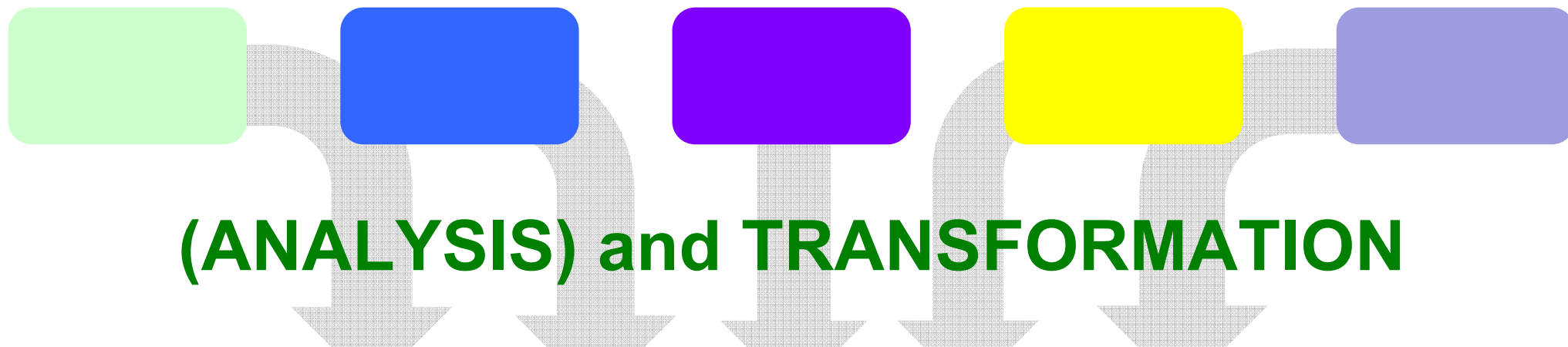
For example, Austria and Germany have different registration structures and access methods, but the company types, their legal meanings and the terminology is highly compatible, whilst the USA is in general based on a small number of technical implementations, each underpinning a number of different uses, and each presenting very similar information in different ways through different methods.

This is very much a human exercise requiring good knowledge of the language, the legal frameworks and the terminology – the outcome of which is a consistent set of terms which can be used internally.

Retrieve → Analyze → **Transform** → Store → Enhance → Play

able to handle different data sources with different datasets, elements of which have the same or different meanings, it was technically imperative to create an intermediate representation which maintains meaning, maintains context, and allows for data correction and enhancement. This mechanism also had to deal with unknown types of data and unknown relationships between their elements.

To achieve this we defined an extensible ontology onto which all data elements and their connections are mapped – this is fed from the analysis step and allows us to maintain context across differing sources. Each of the interfaces has the task of mapping the information it receives onto this ontology



Retrieve → Analyze → Transform → **Store** → Enhance → Play

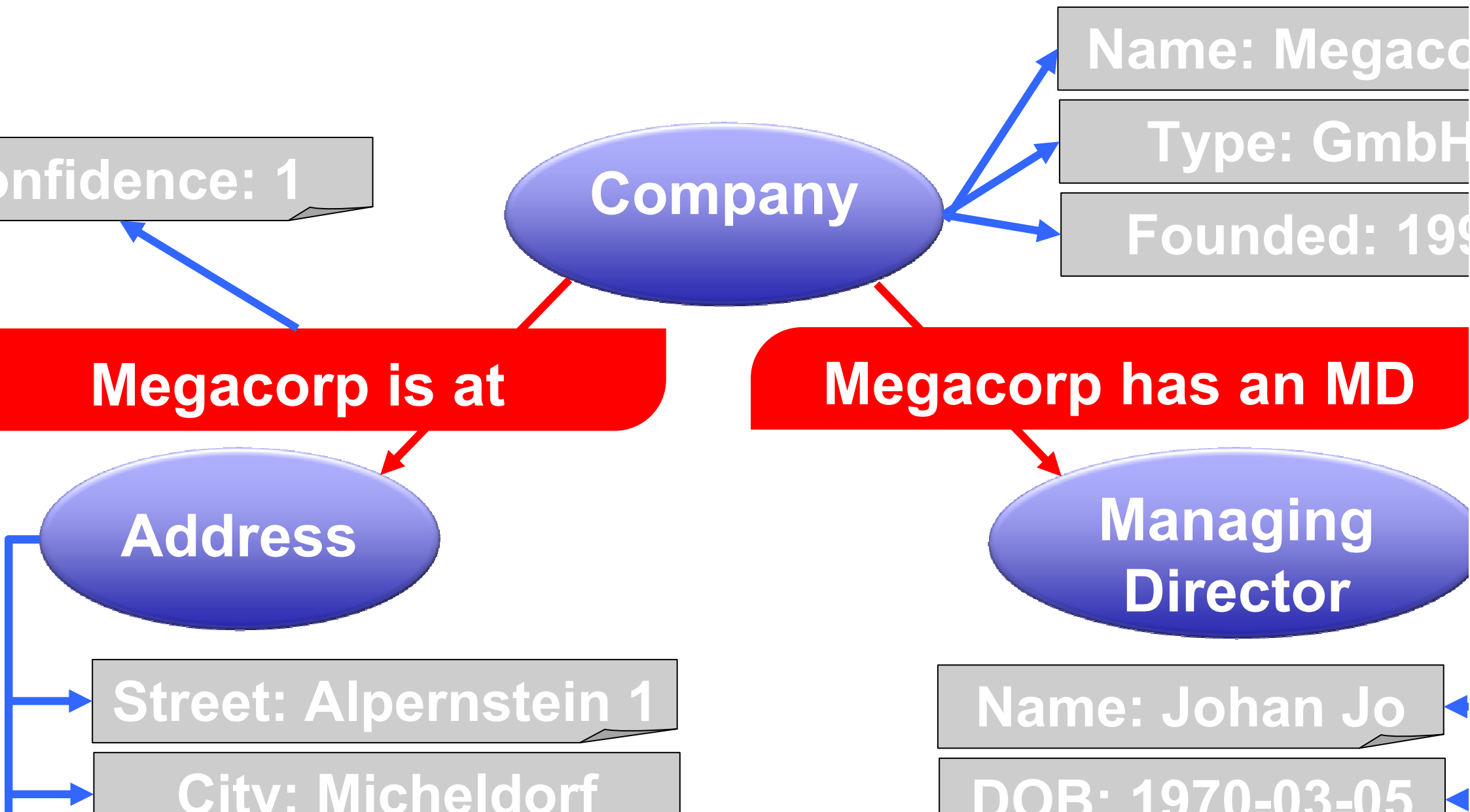
The storage problem is essentially the same as the transformation problem. We have to devise a method of storing unknown types of data from unknown sources with unknown meanings and unknown relationships in an open ended way which would not require changes to the data structure with every new source.

Luckily there was already a model which met these requirements published by W3C – Resource Description Framework, RDF.

RDF basically provides an open, flexible model for describing entities, data and relationships in a web friendly format (for identification and/or access), but also an RDF compatible structure is used internally for our ontology and data storage.

When coupled with domain knowledge and careful upfront analysis, allows us to store properties and its relationships that are unknown until analysis time whilst still retaining context, and without rebuilding the data store. It also importantly provides forward compatibility with other RDF compatible applications, particularly those on the semantic web.

Retrieve → Analyze → Transform → **Store** → Enhance → Play



Retrieve → Analyze → Transform → Store → **Enhance** → Play

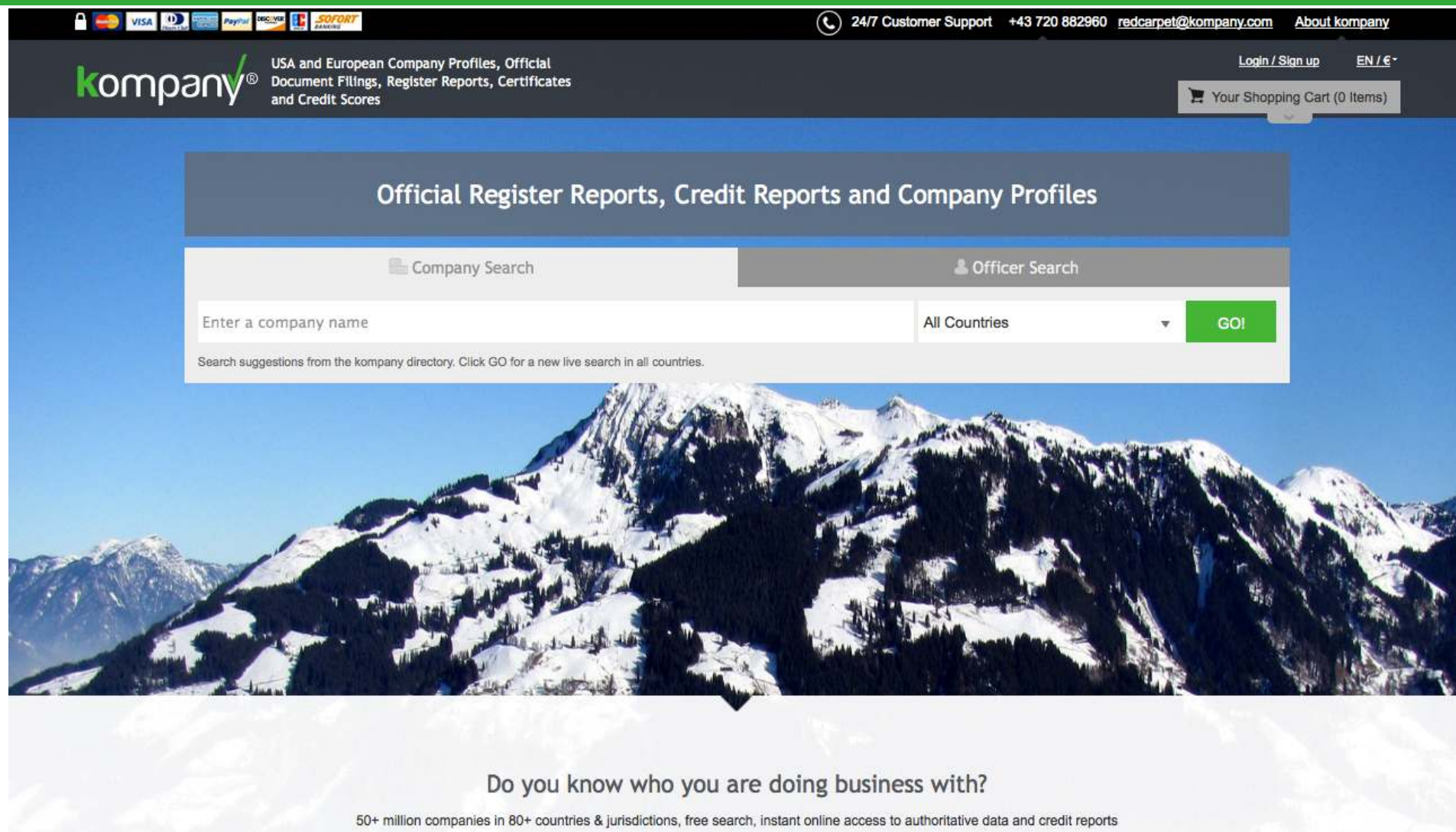
Structuring the data in this way allows us to use several techniques to enhance the data.

For example, we can visit the website and possibly extract data like the impressum, or follow links to LinkedIn, Facebook, etc and extract data from there.

We can also parse non-structured information in a programmatic fashion to extract meaningful and useful information, e.g. German Corporate Announcements, Swiss Corporate Announcements

We are also testing AI techniques (evolutionary algorithms and neural networks) to enhance and expand the data we have – by looking for patterns in the information we already have to extract new relationships – for example, to detect when a person works across multiple companies, possibly across multiple countries.

Retrieve → Analyze → Transform → Store → Enhance → Play



The screenshot shows the Kompany website homepage. At the top, there is a navigation bar with payment logos (MasterCard, Visa, American Express, PayPal, Discover, Sofort), a 24/7 Customer Support phone number (+43 720 882960), an email address (redcarpet@kompany.com), and a link to 'About kompany'. Below this, the Kompany logo is displayed next to the text 'USA and European Company Profiles, Official Document Filings, Register Reports, Certificates and Credit Scores'. On the right, there are links for 'Login / Sign up' and 'EN / €', and a shopping cart icon showing 'Your Shopping Cart (0 Items)'. The main content area features a large banner with the text 'Official Register Reports, Credit Reports and Company Profiles'. Below this, there are two search tabs: 'Company Search' and 'Officer Search'. The 'Company Search' tab is active, showing a search input field with the placeholder 'Enter a company name', a dropdown menu for 'All Countries', and a green 'GO!' button. Below the search field, there is a note: 'Search suggestions from the kompany directory. Click GO for a new live search in all countries.' The background of the banner is a scenic image of a snow-capped mountain range. At the bottom of the banner, the text 'Do you know who you are doing business with?' is displayed, followed by '50+ million companies in 80+ countries & jurisdictions, free search, instant online access to authoritative data and credit reports'.

www.kompany.com

**Multi lingual, multi currency, multi country company search,
Information and products**

22-11-2019 10:00:00 AM 2019-11-22 10:00:00 AM REAL TIME

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kompany[®]

USA and European Company Profiles, Official Document Filings, Register Reports, Certificates and Credit Scores

pabc

[Log Out](#)

EN / £-

Following (6)

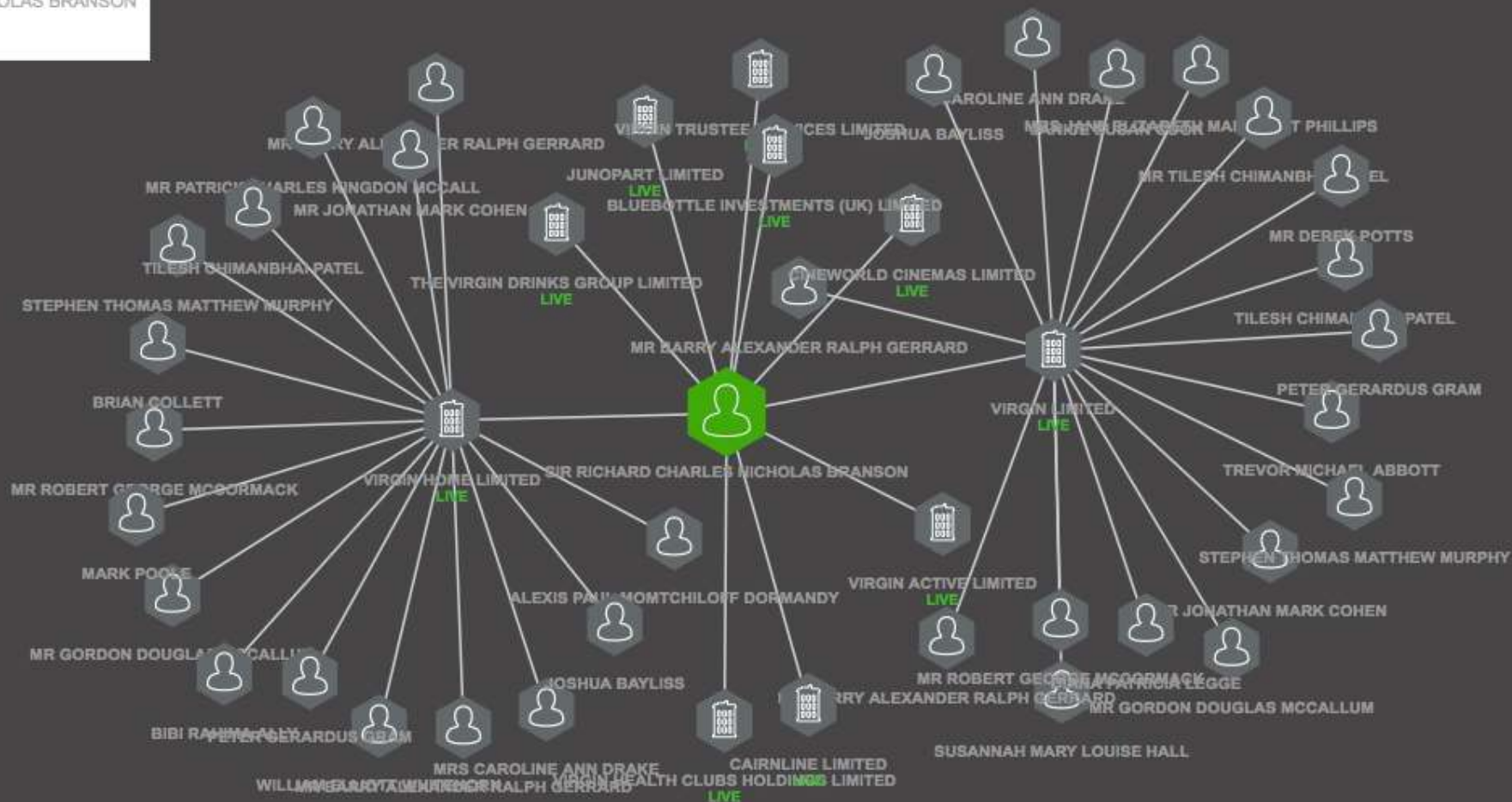
My Bookshelf (1079)

Enter a company name



 Your Shopping Cart (0 Items) £ 0.00

- VIRGIN HOME LIMITED
- SIR RICHARD CHARLES NICHOLAS BRANSON
- VIRGIN LIMITED



can you build a business?

At a simple level, a successful business needs:

Something to sell

Verify, Evaluate and Validate capability – KYC, KYS, KYB and AML

Someone to sell to

100 million firms trade locally, nationally and internationally across the globe

Good Suppliers

Low as possible costs

What is a Good Supplier of Public Company Register Data?

“A good supplier provides reasonable cost, automated, access timely, accurate, officially licensed structured data”

	Preferred	Get ☹ - 😊
sonable cost	Realistic charges < 50c /doc	5million Euro –
ated Access	Webservice, XML/JSON	XLS files – Webscrap Webservices
ely, Accurate	Hourly update with notification of change	Posted DVD's – Mo Files – Hourly Unstructured – Daily
	XML/JSON, HTML	XLS files, CSV files

Officially Licensed

There are significant questions still to be addressed in terms of PSI for corporate data specifically around:

Ownership – does the data belong to the company, the register, the public or no-one?

Copyright – does copyright exist with the register, the company or does it exist at all?

Re-use – if we take data and enhance it, or use it as the basis for enhanced products that reuse, or is it a derivative?

Origin of Source – is there a requirement to maintain an audit trail of initial data source? What if the data is superseded?

Privacy – Is there a right to privacy around data which is already publically accessible 'officially' published, or as a derivative?

Clearly these are interlinked, and until these are addressed at a supplier level (i.e. a legislative level), the onus remains on the user of the information to decide on the

**but there is a high risk of making lawyers
rich!**

**Thank
You**

**here are all
these
companies
making millions
from our data
so they should
pay for that**

**All our data will
be available
free of charge
by the end of
the year**