

OPEN OWNERSHIP

The Global Beneficial Ownership Register



The Beneficial Ownership Data Standard

Tools for developing good quality data

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www.openownership.org

The BODS data schema - a reminder

The data schema describes how data about the beneficial owners of a legal entity can be **organized** and **exchanged**.

The schema is defined in a **structured data format** called JSON.

Statement of Capital (Totals)

Currency	GBP	Total number of shares	2017571
		Total aggregate nominal value	18034.781

Full Details of Shareholders

The details below relate to individuals / corporate bodies that were shareholders as at 31/03/2016 or that had ceased to be shareholders since the made up date of the previous Annual Return.

A full list of shareholders for the company is shown below.

Shareholding / : 1779690 ORDINARY shares held as of the date of the return
Name: DRILLGREAT LIMITED

Companies House **AR01 (cf)**
Annual Return

Received for filing in Electronic Format on the: 05/06/2016 X5816B7V

Company Name: MONSOON LIMITED
Company Number: 02585514

```
... {
  "statementID": "938gj2vv-68gh-k67w-pp03-94uffjwgd45a",
  "statementType": "entityStatement",
  "groupID": "a03fe48z-ab3b-44e3-gfd5-45pl5930h394",
  "statementDate": "2016-06-06",
  "entityType": "registeredEntity",
  "name": "Drillgreat Limited",
  "foundingDate": "2007-06-26",
  "identifiers": [
    {
      "scheme": "GB-COH",
      "id": "06292597",
      "validationType": "strict"
    }
  ],
  "statement": {
    "statementID": "jky057dh-235d-00ut-l06h-0pr55tghj341",
    "statementType": "beneficialOwnershipStatement",
    "groupID": "a03fe48z-ab3b-44e3-gfd5-45pl5930h394",
    "statementDate": "2016-06-06",
    "subject": {
      "type": "entityStatement",
      "describedByStatement": "5748fgey-3fg7-j78k-8j8d-14l09hh36fs6"
    },
    "interestedParty": {
      "entity": {
        "type": "entityStatement",
        "describedByStatement": "938gj2vv-68gh-k67w-pp03-94uffjwgd45a"
      }
    },
    "interests": [
      {
        "type": "shareholding",
        "interestLevel": "direct",
        "share": {
          "exact": 98.7
        }
      },
      {
        "type": "voting-rights",
        "interestLevel": "direct",
        "share": {
          "exact": 99.99
        }
      }
    ]
  }
}
```

JSON

What happens *without* structured data and standards?

Compare

Nationality

Type in your nationality

```
{  
  "nationality": "UK"  
}
```

```
{  
  "nationality": "French"  
}
```

Nationality

United Kingdom

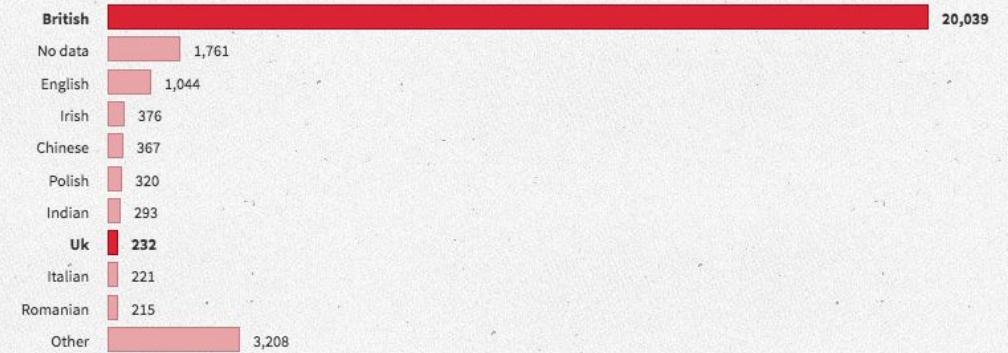
 Select from the list

```
{  
  "nationality": {  
    "name": "United Kingdom",  
    "code": "GB"  
  }  
}
```

```
{  
  "nationality": {  
    "name": "la France",  
    "code": "FR"  
  }  
}
```

NATIONALITIES OF BENEFICIAL OWNERS

The release gives information on the nationality of beneficial owners. As we can see there are issues with the free text nature of the field meaning some people fill in "British" while others use "UK". This hinders analysis of the data.



This data was accurate as of the snapshot published by Companies House on 8/7/2016

Source: [UK Companies House](#) | [Download Data](#) | [Embed](#)



global witness

Early analysis from the UK Persons of Significant Control data found over 3,000 'nationalities' described.

This makes the nationality field less reliable for matching people's identities.

See: <https://www.globalwitness.org/en/blog/first-look-uk-beneficial-ownership-data/>

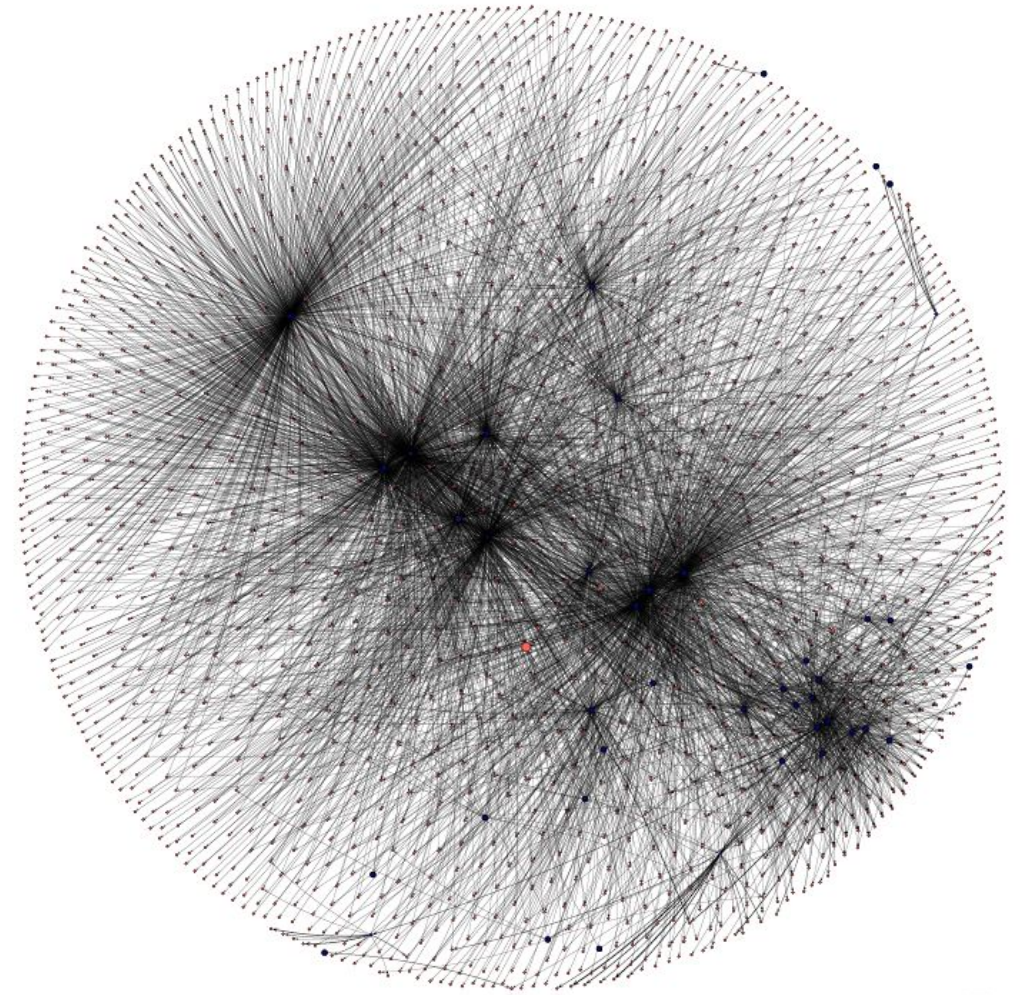
What happens ***with*** structured data and standards?

The better the structure, the **more chance** of:

- Finding connections;
- Finding errors;
- Supporting analysis

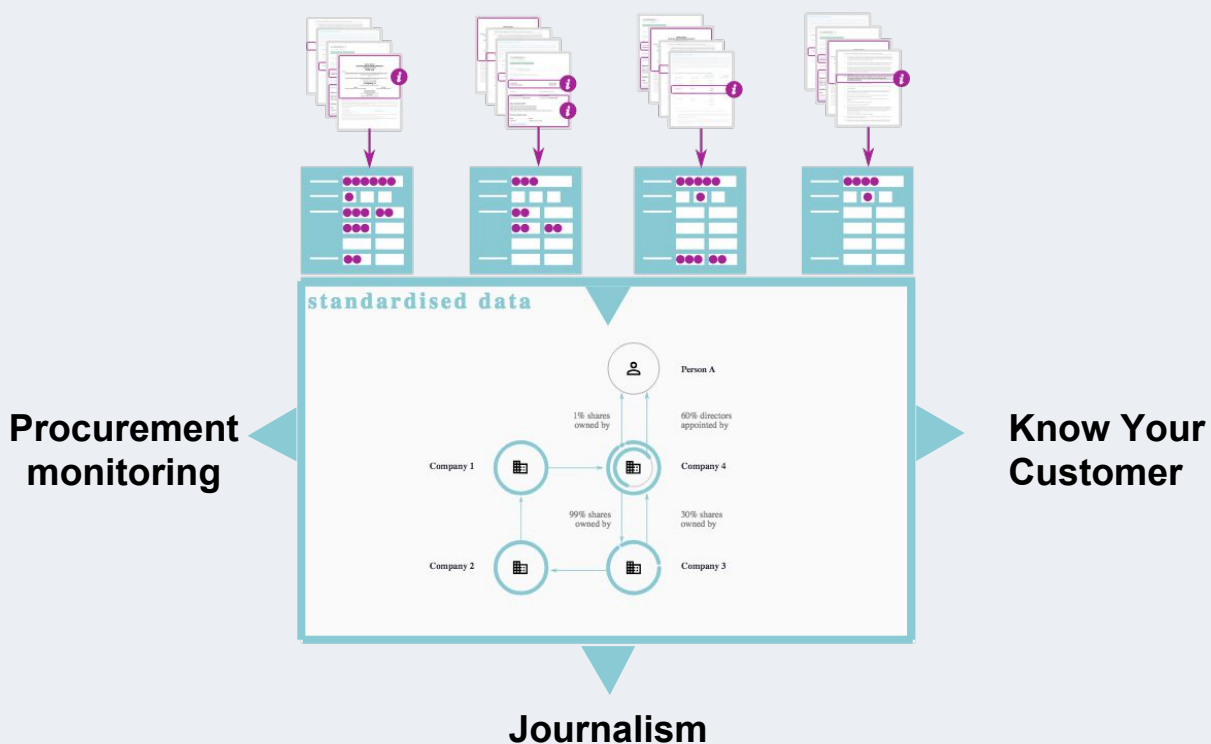
And the **lower the burden on users** when:

- Interpreting the data
- Building reusable tools



Why use the data standard? In summary...

Publish once, use anywhere



- **Reducing ambiguity** in data
- Improving the opportunity to **find connections** between datasets
- Making sense of **data from different sources**
- **Avoiding over-simplistic interpretations** of beneficial ownership
- **Making working with beneficial ownership data simple** by enabling creation of common tools

The implementation journey



1: Commit

Secure political support. Determine scope. Identify legislative or policy changes required.

2: User focus

Identify key local drivers for data use. Engage data users early. Build skills for user-centred design.

3: Data & design

Map new or existing systems to BODS. Set up mechanisms for structured, granular & changing data.

4: Business process

Establish business process for data entry, updates & validation. Design and test forms.

5: Publication

Set a license. Provide APIs and bulk data. Establish feedback loops to improve data.

6: Maintenance

Data cleaning and improvements. Make sure register is updated. Remove redacted data.

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Policy Review Tool

An introduction to key concepts around standardising beneficial ownership data.

Sets out key decision points.

- The **scope** of data collection
- The definition of **beneficial ownership**
- The use of **identifiers** for legal and natural persons
- Policies for **historical** data and **updates** to data
- Source data and **provenance**
- Approaches to **non-compliance**
- Business **processes**

Contact details

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Questions?



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