Dun & Bradstreet

Dun & Bradstreet Chooses Neo4j to Accelerate Clients’ Compliance with Complex Company Ownership Checks

Dun & Bradstreet helps companies improve business performance through high-quality data and insights, delivered via the latest technology.

In 2016, Dun & Bradstreet adopted Neo4j graph technology to enable a new B2B compliance service for organizations that are obliged to investigate all historic company ownership records linked to individuals, in line with new international transparency regulations designed to counter money laundering and tax evasion.

Neo4j’s ability to efficiently map shareholders’ interests globally, despite complex inter-company dependencies, helps clients accelerate compliance and book new revenues without delay. Hours of manual research by expensive professionals are replaced by millisecond queries and Dun & Bradstreet’s associated business activity is expanding at a double-digit rate.

The Company

Dun & Bradstreet is a world-leading technology and data group. Its Data Cloud delivers the world’s most comprehensive business data and analytical insights from over 350 million business records, from tens of thousands of sources, updated 5 million times a day. The associated insights help business clients accelerate sales, lower costs and manage risk. Companies can access data directly, or as part of specialist solutions and services.

The Challenge

Dun & Bradstreet prides itself on harnessing the most advanced technologies and techniques to deliver its data and insights to clients, through its own services and via partnerships with innovative start-ups with their own ideas for modern, data-based apps and services.

In response to new international transparency requirements around business owners’ historic company interests, the global investigations designed to curb money laundering and other crimes and the considerable research burden for firms’ own skilled teams, Dun & Bradstreet identified an opportunity to provide an accelerated information service. This would empower financial and professional services organizations to complete customer checks swiftly and accurately.

“We already had customers using our business data for existing ‘know your customer’ requirements, but the new ‘beneficial ownership’ mandate was becoming a significant pain point,” explains Paul Westcott, Senior Product Manager, Compliance at Dun & Bradstreet UK. “The investigations call for highly trained staff, and this activity is hard to scale. A single query might tie up key people for 10-15 days, resulting in lost revenue.” And because new business teams can’t legitimately register sales until the checks are completed, any delay could mean a shortfall in revenue.
Neo4j is the leader in graph database technology. As the world’s most widely deployed graph database, we help global brands – including Comcast, NASA, UBS, and Volvo Cars – to reveal and predict how people, processes and systems are interrelated.

Using this relationships-first approach, applications built with Neo4j tackle connected data challenges such as analytics and artificial intelligence, fraud detection, real-time recommendations, and knowledge graphs. Find out more at neo4j.com.

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Questions about Neo4j?
Contact us across the globe:
info@neo4j.com
neo4j.com/contact-us