OUR DATA - quality

Quality of data in the Dutch business register

Ricco Dun, the Netherlands Chamber of Commerce, 4 June 2014
Chamber(s) of Commerce in the Netherlands

• 2 major changes:
  o Jan 2013: abolishment of annual fee; change to government funding (and sales of information)
  o Jan 2014: merger into 1 Chamber
    ▪ Click, call, face
    ▪ Less income, fewer staff and offices
• Business register still one of main tasks
Business register

- **Legal basis**
  - Trade Register Act
  - Civil Code
  - EU Directives
- **Registration is mandatory**
  - For all Dutch companies
  - All branches in NL of foreign companies
  - Including sole traders, associations and foundations
- **Since 2008 also for**
  - Farms and fisheries
  - Professionals (medical doctors, lawyers etc)
  - Public and government bodies
- **All economic entities are now registered**
Data in the business register

- Data to be registered
  - Name(s) of the organisation
  - Legal form
  - Seat
  - Brief description of activities
  - Owners, managers etc
  - Power of attorney
  - Capital invested
  - Number of employees
  - etc
## Registered entities

2.4 million registered entities

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type</th>
<th>Number</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Individual Enterprise</td>
<td>938.000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Private Limited Company</td>
<td>852.000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Public Limited Company</td>
<td>4.100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Partnership</td>
<td>210.000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Associations</td>
<td>224.000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Foundations</td>
<td>199.000</td>
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<tr>
<td>EEIG</td>
<td>54</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SE</td>
<td>33</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Quality checks at registration

- Online registration for companies by notaries
- Online preregistration for others
- People have to come to our office (no digital ID in NL)
- Check identity with ID and check ID (false / stolen?)
- Check / copy data from national database natural persons (and create permanent link)
- Check director position, power of attorney
- Check ownership or rental agreement business address
- Check the substance of the ‘business’
- Check many data with the incorporation document (proxy, capital etc)
- Check partnership contract

- Registered organisations have 8 days to report changes
Quality inspection business register 2013

- By external market research organisation
- Sample of 1100 registrations
- Equally divided over 10 lines of business
- Also divided by amount of employees and geography
Quality inspection business register 2013

NL data quality | Rome, 4 June 2014

Ricco Dun, Netherlands Chamber of Commerce
Quality inspection business register 2013

- Check the quality of
  - (Trading) name of the business
  - Main activities
  - Visiting address
  - Postal address
  - Phone number

- Comparing with reality
Quality inspection business register 2013

• Average quality of
  o (Trading) name of the business 97%
  o Main activities 96%
  o Visiting address 98%
  o Postal address 97%
  o Phone number 91%
Actions taken

• Generic
  o Notifications between basic registries
  o Create digital messagebox; view own data
• Specific action to check data financial industry (15.000)

• Use EBR BDS to check relations with UK, EI, NO, SE
Conclusions on quality

• ‘At the level of individual data the quality of the business register is high and stable’
• This gives the business register a good position in the new System of Basic Registries in NL, where
  o Sharing of these data between government offices is mandatory
  o People and businesses only have to file the same information once with the government
  o The use of these shared data is mandatory for the government
    ▪ Makes government more efficient
    ▪ Can improve its services

• Registered organisations have 8 days to report changes
Questions?

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