

International Data Spaces Association and iSHARE join forces to achieve data sovereignty

Organisations can now go live with IDS immediately through iSHARE

Delft (the Netherlands), 4 December 2019 – **The International Data Spaces Association has announced that the iSHARE data-sharing scheme and the IDS Reference Architecture (IDS) are now aligned with respect to identification, authentication and authorization. As of today, organisations that want to obtain control over data can go live with IDS immediately through iSHARE – a scheme that facilitates the secure and simple exchange of data in business ecosystems worldwide on the basis of uniform standards. The announcement, which was made at the IDSA Winterdays in Paris, was accompanied by an appeal to public-sector and private-sector organisations to sign a petition to speed up the implementation of data sovereignty.**

Data sovereignty: uniform, simple and controlled data sharing

iSHARE is a set of agreements that enables organisations to give each other access to their data. Since they all work with the same identification, authentication and authorisation methods, they do not need to keep making new agreements every time they want to share data. The scheme went live in 2018, and the number of organisations that are implementing iSHARE has been growing steadily ever since.

Thanks to the incorporation of the iSHARE data-sharing agreements into the IDS architecture, IDSA will now be able to accelerate the deployment of a secure infrastructure that protects data sovereignty and trust. “Over recent months, we have worked on aligning the fundamentals of the iSHARE scheme with the IDS architecture. The IDS architecture supports different identity management mechanisms and is technology agnostic. The integration of iSHARE enables participants to quickly set to work with their use cases while relying on a proven and readily available identity solution. In other words: by including iSHARE, we can offer faster deployment,” says Lars Nagel, Managing Director of IDSA.

“In the Netherlands we already have several examples of real-life iSHARE implementations that can be a source of inspiration for the IDS community. Above all, both we and IDSA recognise the urgent need to accelerate the efforts to achieve data sovereignty in Europe. That’s why we are also seizing this opportunity to encourage public-sector and private-sector organisations throughout Europe to sign our petition. Additionally, we are calling on them to proactively contribute to giving businesses and consumers control over their own data – and iSHARE now makes that possible,” states Gerard van der Hoeven, chair of the iSHARE Foundation.

The International Data Spaces Association (IDSA) is an international network in which businesses and research organisations are actively involved in designing a trustworthy architecture for the data economy. IDSA aims to facilitate the worldwide exchange of data between data providers and data users in business data-sharing ecosystems and in which data providers stay in control of their own data. This data sovereignty is achieved by allowing data providers to define conditions and set restrictions for the use of their data.

Ever since its foundation in 2016, more than 100 companies and institutions from 20 countries and various industries, including several Fortune 500 companies, globally active medium-sized companies and software and system houses, have made progress in building the IDS architecture.

IDSA and iSHARE principles

Both iSHARE and IDSA provide an infrastructure for trusted data built on the following principles:

- Decentralised architecture: data is kept at the source
- Protection of trust: uniform onboarding requirements
- Sovereignty of data and services: data owners are in control
- Openness: anyone can join
- Secure data exchange: protecting data assets
- Governance collaborative rules: community in charge
- Scaling effects on network: adoption creates value for all
- Network of platforms and services: inclusive ecosystem
- Data providers can participate in the value of data

About International Data Spaces Association

The International Data Space Association (IDSA) is a network that supports the secure exchange and the simple linking of data in business ecosystems on the basis of standards and by means of common governance models. Over 95 international organisations are member of the IDS community.

About iSHARE

iSHARE is a uniform set of agreements or scheme that enables organisations to give each other access to their data. Since they all work with the same identification, authentication and authorisation methods, they do not need to keep making new agreements on these topics every time they want to share data. Together, the partners who participate in the iSHARE Scheme create a 'network of trust' within which they can share data effortlessly. iSHARE is an initiative of the Dutch government's Logistics Top Sector.

For more information:

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