**Programme Update**

Our apologies for the delay to this newsletter; all we say is that it has been a busy Spring for the team. However, a couple of updates have finally landed, which whilst not highlighting any significant issues, did see us in 10% of the audience this month. However, it will be brief; however it does mean there will be a short delay to the programme as we work through the attendees’ address. Despite this, we still aim to have a working version this month with a number of users testing it in anger.

Aside from the GDS assessment, it has been a productive time since the last newsletter, lots of our stakeholders gave us their thoughts on our RDM eight-week commercialisation, and we would like to thank everyone who took part. We give an overview of findings below, and will post the full report on our webpage.

The procurement process for our platform has continued and we have been delighted with the quality of providers and solutions that have been proposed. All of the shortlisted bidders could deliver an excellent solution, but we can only pick one and hope to announce our preferred supplier in the next couple of weeks.

For those interested in contributing to our eventual solution, we have a couple of opportunities. We have a chance to help shape a real prototype to make our data more findable and the chance to be one of the first to feedback on our latest prototype. Please see our timeline below on how to get in touch.

We are attending a few events in the coming months which are detailed on our website. The good to see is that we will be shortlisted in the newsletter. We are in the middle of our minimum viable product (MVP) and we would love to get your feedback.

**Programme Summary**

- **Open data** - key to the wider aims of growth and innovation within our industry is access to "Open Data" (i.e. free to access, with a default pillar of the Rail Data Marketplace (RDM). Participants felt that whilst commercialised data sets will fetch prices, going forward, RDM should always offer open data. This aligns perfectly with our original aims.

- **Classifying data** was also popular and seems to be a route to expect to find a lot of data of a free charge, to encourage data aggregators and innovators to share their data with a view to driving and supporting innovation. This in turn likely evolution into a subscription model.

- **Compliance** - there was a lot of sentiment around how different data sets had their own class of commercialism; we would accept a range of solutions on data set maturity and whether those data sets had an existing customer base.

- **Subscription-based payments** for commercialized data were common which may have inflationary charges for high commercialised data.

- **Off-the-shelf licensing** on the platform was a key focus of the research. The RDM wants to bring together data publishers and make that interaction as low-cost and "friction-free" as possible. This was certainly of value to a broad range of data consumers however, some felt there was a lack of growth of what would they would strive to see over their existing data set.

A key discussion for the RDM was that data consumers wanted to price their data depending on who the data consumer was. This was in part to support start-ups, whilst enabling data and innovation but also to prevent high barriers to entry opportunities.

Feedback from our user research has helped inform both technical requirements of the RDM and as ever our platform could support more opportunities through it. We would like to thank everyone that gave up their valuable time to help us with our user research.

**Iterating our Prototype**

We have demonstrated our prototype to a number of different audiences as well as run previous feedback sessions. We believe the best place possible and the ground running with our new platform supplier, we will be further iterating the prototype. This will improve our user feedback, help us refine our innovative, valuable product and our journeys. This will include adding contextual help to tricky steps, addressing issues from our Accessibility audit, and designing simpler alternatives for content pages to conduct testing with users. If you wish to take note of this.

**Taxesonomy Survey**

Classifying data that appears on the RDM is key to making it findable. Both when you publish your dataset and when searching for datasets that you wish to consume. Whether you’re tagging, searching, buying, or data classification is key to findability and discoverability.

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**Upcoming Events**

- **GEO Business**
  
  Geospatial Technology: shaping the future for the transportation gathering, future networking and delivery of geospatial services
  
  [https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e GEO Business?aff=21921181](https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e GEO Business?aff=21921181)

  Venue: The Chesford Grange Hotel, Warwickshire, UK
  
  Date: 18 & 19 May 2022

- ** Reaction: a reality event, where disruptive ideas and technologies can coalesce for the future of the entire value chain.**
  
  Venue: Epsom Downs, Royal Victoria Dock, Western Gateway, London E16 3UL

  Date: 26 June 2022

- **RDM Conference and Expo**
  
  [https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e RDM Conference and Expo?aff=12266295](https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e RDM Conference and Expo?aff=12266295)

  Venue: London, UK
  
  Date: 21 June 2022

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**Our newsletter’s goal is to make our data more findable, and you’re welcome to feedback on our platform. We are in the middle of our minimum viable product (MVP) and we would love to get your feedback.**

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**Highlights from Commercial User Research**

As part of our recent user research, we spoke to data publishers, data consumers, data aggregators, TMC’s, Academic, suppliers to the rail industry, SME’s and innovators. We came away from this with lots of insights. The full report will be posted on our webpage but we thought that we would share just a few key insights.

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The many have spent the past few months defining different categories and sub-categories of data and we’re very keen to get your feedback. You can view our short list to see how we would categorise and label our data clicking here. You can also view our complete taxonomy at the end of the text and provide your feedback.

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**EndNote**

An innovative spin-out up to the rail industry, the Rail Data Marketplace and deliver a new generation of rail data marketplace and value chain suppliers.