

CHRIS TAGGART

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SUMMARY

Co-founder and CEO of OpenCorporates, the world's largest open database of companies in the world, active member of the open data communities, and advisor to governments and NGOs on open data, reuse of public sector information and corporate data. Originally a magazine journalist and publisher, I have been working exclusively in the field of open government and public-sector information since 2009.

RECENT HISTORY

CO-FOUNDER & CEO OF OPENCORPORATES, 2010– CURRENT

OpenCorporates is the largest open database of companies in the world, with data on over 180 million companies in 130+ jurisdictions. Since its founding, almost 10 years ago, OpenCorporates has grown from a small project to a successful and essential resource for journalists, anti-corruption investigators, law enforcement, regulators, due diligence professionals, banks and business. Our data has been used in countless investigations, including the Panama Papers, and investigations into the Danske Bank money laundering scandal.

OpenCorporates is a public-benefit enterprise, with a strong governance structure, overseen by the OpenCorporates Trust, and powered by an innovative public-benefit business model.

FOUNDING BOARD MEMBER, GLOBAL LEGAL ENTITY IDENTIFIER FOUNDATION, 2014–2019

The Global Legal Entity Identifier Foundation was created by the G20 to address the problem of identifying participants in the financial markets, following the collapse of Lehman Brothers, and the financial crisis. I was on the Private Sector Advisory group from 2011-2013, which advised on the creation of the organization, and was asked to be a founding board director of the foundation.

OTHER BOARDS ETC

UK Government Tax Transparency Board, UK Government Local Public Data Panel, European Commission ISA Working Group On Business Vocabulary

OLDER HISTORY

MAGAZINE JOURNALIST, EDITOR, PUBLISHER & CEO

I had a successful career in consumer magazines for 20 years, first as a journalist, then as an editor, and later publisher. I ended up running magazine companies, and in 1998 founded my own magazine publishing company, which I successfully sold in 2006.

EDUCATION

University College London – BSc Mathematics