

ORBIS

A world of company information



BUREAU VAN DIJK

ELECTRONIC PUBLISHING



ORBIS: A world of company information

ORBIS is a comprehensive database of companies around the world. It contains information combined from nearly 100 sources which is filtered into various standard report formats. ORBIS contains information on 60 million companies. Coverage is constantly increasing: both depth of data and number of countries.

ORBIS has sections of superlative coverage including listed companies worldwide, public and private banks and insurance companies plus private European companies as well as a unique ownership database.

Combined data expertise

BvDEP sources data from specialist information providers (IPs) each an expert in its discipline(s) or region(s), so that ORBIS contains the best available combination of data. In addition to the descriptive information and financials, ORBIS contains further information such as news, annual reports, ownership and M&A data.

Workable global standardised reports with links to "as reported" data

ORBIS includes standardised reports that have been created to best reflect organisation types and global accountancy practices. The reports are a practical balance between detail and standardisation that facilitate global searching and analysis - without compromise. Three basic templates are included: industrial companies, banks and insurance companies. Users can access various levels of detail of standardised accounts with up to 10 years of history. They can also access more specific reports¹ that are on BvDEP's regional or organisation-specific products (such as BankScope) which often contain "as reported" data.

Viable global searching

The standardised reports mean that users can search across the database using a consistent set of criteria. Users can choose from over a hundred search items that can be combined to help narrow down searches very specifically. Industry codes have been allocated and cross-referenced for intelligent searching by activity. Users can search on actual financials, growth rates or estimates.

Impressive coverage of private companies

Over 99% of the companies on ORBIS are private companies. Private company information is more difficult to obtain and the legal obligations to file accounts vary widely from country to country. If full financial information is not available, ORBIS offers reports with varying amounts of financial detail and estimates.

Ownership data

BvDEP's ownership database is a complete source of approximately 24 million shareholder/subsidiary links. BvDEP supplements the ownership data provided by the IPs and has a specialist team working solely on this resource.

The information is collected from a variety of additional sources including: Official registers (including SEC filings and stock exchanges), annual reports, private correspondence and telephone research, company websites and newswires. It aims to convey the following about a company:

- its independence in relation to its shareholders,
- its direct and indirect shareholders with their percentage of ownership,
- its ultimate owner (if any), according to the user's definition,
- its direct and indirect subsidiaries with their percentage of ownership and status, with even very small links between two entities indicated.

Flexible access

ORBIS is available with two access options that can be combined for added flexibility.

1. Unlimited access

Unlimited access to a choice of size-defined modules.

The modules are:

- Very Large Companies
- Large Companies
- Medium Companies
- Small Companies

2. Pay-per-view

Credits can be used to access reports - the various reports use different numbers of credits depending on the level of detail they contain. Credits are not used for searching and accounts are easily set up in advance.

These two access modes can be combined for a flexible solution that provides unlimited access to data required on a regular basis, and credits to access information occasionally.

Breakdown of modules

Very Large Companies

Operating Revenue > 130 million USD
100 million EUR
or Total Assets > 260 million USD
200 million EUR
or Employees > 1000
All listed companies, regardless of size

Large Companies

Operating Revenue > 13 million USD
10 million EUR
or Total Assets > 26 million USD
20 million EUR
or Employees > 150

Medium Companies

Operating Revenue > 1.3 million USD
1 million EUR
or Total Assets > 2.6 million USD
2 million EUR
or Employees > 15

Small Companies

Companies not fulfilling these criteria

¹Access requires credits or a subscription to the relevant product(s).

The reports and an overview of the information they contain:

The information is presented in a standard format which has 25 data sections with various default reports, up to 10 years of history plus the option to customise.

The data sections include²:

- General contact information and overview
- Industry/activities including primary and secondary codes in several local and international classifications plus trade description
- Overview - larger companies have a section containing a detailed history and overview of their activities
- Financial profile - the financials are in specific formats for corporates, banks and insurance companies:
 - Balance sheet
 - P&L account
 - Ratios (including user-defined ratios)
- Board members and officers
- Auditors and advisors
- Mergers and acquisitions relating to the company or one of its divisions
- Ownership information - this unique data set is supplemented by BvDEP and lists:
 - Shareholdings and subsidiaries for both public and private companies
 - Direct and indirect ownership
 - Ultimate owner
 - Independence indicator
- Corporate group: all companies with the same ultimate owner as the subject company

- A news service brings together stories and headlines from various high profile sources such as Reuters, the Financial Times newspaper and Newswires, ZEPHYR and Dow Jones Newswires. The stories are archived for up to 2 years (depending on source) and updated every 15 minutes
- Industry research from Datamonitor, including company profiles and SWOT analyses
- Standard peer group report which automatically compares the subject company to its peers

Listed companies have the following additional sections:

- Description and history
- Segment data
- Cash flow
- More detailed accounts
- Stock data from Fininfo including security and price details, current stock data, annual stock data, current stock valuation, monthly pricing series
- A summary of the company's future outlook
- Full colour scanned annual, interim and quarterly reports plus Corporate and Social Responsibility Reports from Global Reports. These are also available for many delisted companies

Searching and analysis

The search criteria are in an easy-to-use format with the choice between a quick multi-step search screen and an expert format. The expert searching offers an abundance of search criteria, Boolean alternatives and times-series options.

²Not all sections are complete for all companies due to country-specific legal restrictions

Working with the information:

Global searching

ORBIS can be used to search for corporates, banks and insurance companies around the world in one easy step. Subscriptions to other products published by BvDEP can be supplemented with credits for ad hoc use.

Exporting

The results of searches can be downloaded to all popular formats. The graphs can be saved for use in reports and presentations.

Graphical illustrations

Each financial item, balance sheet, profit and loss account, ownership structure, peer and statistical analysis can be illustrated graphically.

Dynamic links

All the subsidiary and holding reports are dynamically linked. An organisation's structure can be illustrated in a navigable tree diagram.

Alert service

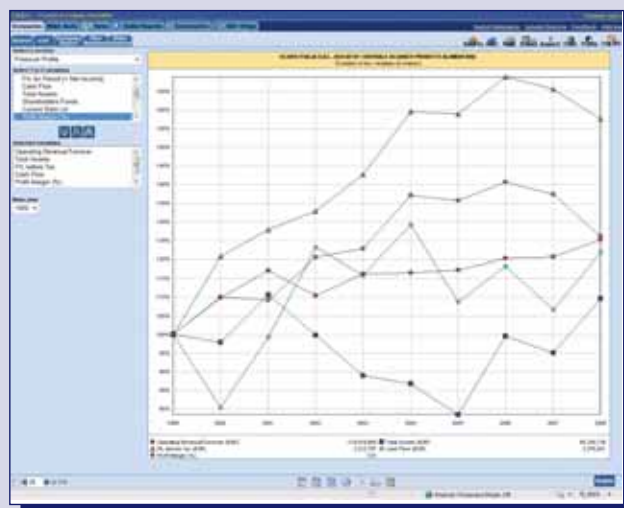
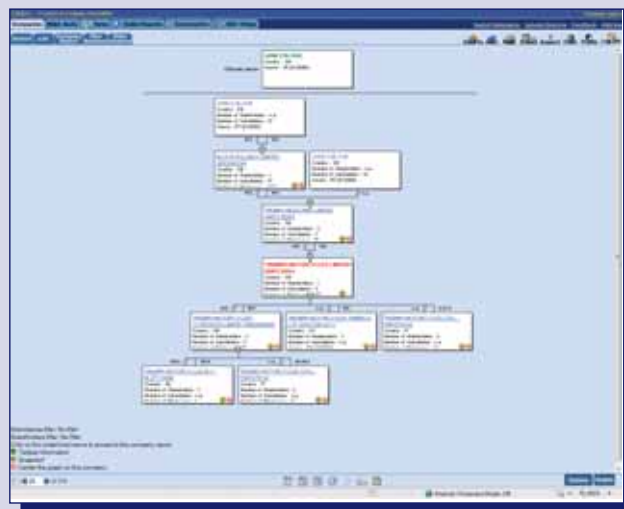
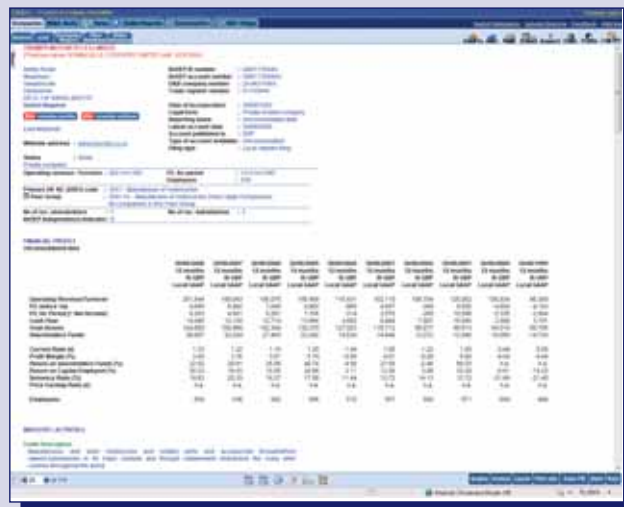
An alert service notifies users of any changes to their chosen companies by e-mail. The service can be tailored to alert users to various changes including: involvement in an M&A deal or rumour, the addition of news or as a company's report is updated. Groups of companies that fulfil criteria can be monitored and users notified when the group changes.

Analysis options

ORBIS includes various flexible analysis options including statistical and peer analyses that give a clear understanding of groups of companies around the world. Additionally, the segmentation option allows the creation of a matrix that displays a group of companies broken down by selected variables. For example, high growth companies can be analysed by industry and country to help identify patterns. This can also be viewed graphically.

User-defined variables

In addition to the many default ratios included in ORBIS users can create their own that match in-house methods. These can be used for searching for companies as well as in the analysis functions.



ORBIS can benefit many areas of your research and analysis:

Suitable for infrequent and frequent use

ORBIS provides an unlimited access option for frequent users and a flexible, pay-per-view option for less frequent users.

Ideal for primary and secondary research

ORBIS provides both simple and advanced searching, summary and detailed data - so it's ideal for both identifying companies and for in-depth analyses and comparisons.

Comprehensive

ORBIS has information on millions of companies around the world, nearly all of which are private. It includes specific data sources for banks, insurance companies and listed companies, to provide you with a comprehensive, accurate data resource.

Can be customised for intranets

BvDEP offers consultancy services for customised analysis or intranet solutions. These solutions can be created to complement the look and feel of existing services. Customers can dictate how it operates and the level of information they choose to provide to their users.

ORBIS for research

- Access information on individual companies in seconds - to the level of detail required
- Identify the major players in specific industries or countries
- Verify company details and use for due diligence research
- Analyse competitors
- Research industries and geographic areas using the segmentation analysis
- Understand and illustrate complex ownership structures, particularly valuable for "know your customer" and compliance research
- Use ORBIS for academic research and teaching
- Prepare for job interviews and find potential employers in recruitment and outplacement consultancies
- Identify and evaluate potential and existing suppliers for procurement research

ORBIS in a financial and tax environment

- Analyse individual and groups of companies/banks in detail, including peer group comparisons
- Use the search criteria to pinpoint acquisition targets and monitor M&A activity
- Benchmark companies against their peers for a more accurate synopsis of their performance - ideal for transfer pricing

ORBIS for business development

- Research markets and regions for feasibility and potential
- Provide as a pre-appointment research tool for your sales teams
- Generate, verify and prioritise leads
- Create targeted lists for strategic direct marketing campaigns
- Develop and refine domestic and international sales territories

Country/Region	Number of companies with detailed financials	Number of companies with summary or other types of reports	Total
UK	3,016,500	1,499,200	4,515,700
France	1,374,000	323,300	1,697,300
Germany	879,900	1,079,500	1,959,400
Rest of Western Europe	4,896,900	4,669,000	9,565,900
Eastern Europe	3,215,300	4,819,700	8,035,000
Total Europe	13,382,600	12,390,700	25,773,300
North America	173,800	18,985,400	19,159,200
South and Central America	10,400	5,457,400	5,467,800
Japan	276,000	3,520,000	3,796,000
China	338,800	66,200	405,000
Rest of the world	487,300	2,122,000	2,609,300
Total	14,668,900	42,541,700	57,210,600

ORBIS contains information on 60,000 listed companies.
Coverage correct in July 2009.

Visit worldofcompanyinfo.com/coverage for the latest figures.

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