

Everybody a data scientist

Key words: business intelligence, health, big data





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Founder and CEO of Ontoforce | Main product: DISQOVER

Aim

To heal patients with smarter data and have a global impact on bringing drugs to market faster

EIT Community connection
EIT Health, EIT Go Global

The project

The idea

We are becoming a world leader in semantic search and aim to disrupt the business intelligence space with our top-notch solution.

Inspiration

I was a data scientist, but when I found out my child had a disability I couldn't find the data myself. So I built a platform to help parents and children find the right schools, therapies and paediatricians. We have seen that we can truly heal patients by democratising Big Data.

Unique selling points

We invested heavily in user interface. You can learn and use the system after watching a five-minute YouTube video and then mine over 120 databases in minutes. We use semantic data federation, which means you keep the data where it is and always have the freshest data through a working federated search system.

EIT Community support

A lot of experts gave us advice and helped us to pivot, optimise our pitch, meet customers and partners, review our materials, develop go-to-market strategies and much, much more.

Teamwork

We have an extremely intelligent and motivated team where we keep

our values of excellence, loyalty, integrity, openness and social impact very high. We are also ultra-focused and take consensus decisions fast, using agile programming and calling people on their accountabilities.

Venture development

We are in the scale-up phase. We have raised EUR 3.2 million in two seed rounds with VCs and dedicated angels, and EUR 1.3 million from the Flemish government. We might also go for some EU funding.

The nominee

The beginning

I was born in Congo with malaria and very sick, and I think that's where I got my passion to help people and the energy to do this.

Entrepreneurial flair

Be inspiring, have a mission, and lead by example. Be open, share, and be authentic.

Learning from experience

You do more together than alone, but set objectives and expectations from the beginning with every hire, partner, investor and customer. Acknowledge and fill in your gaps as soon as possible. Also, I learned that when you ask for money, you get advice ... but when you ask for advice, you get to the money.

Best memory

So many I can't count them ... running into one of the founders of Google and talking about how data can save the world ... shaking hands with Tim Berners Lee and not being willing to wash it for days ... meeting great entrepreneurs like Mike Benioff. But one of the best is seeing how proud my wife and kids are.

Ideal advisor

Tim Berners Lee, Paul Janssen, Mike Benioff. Idealists who want to help the world and also have a strong sense of doing great business.













