

Cerved exposes financial networks with Linkurious



Customer

Cerved Group Spa

Country

Italy

Industry

Finance

Customer Profile

Cerved is a leading business information provider in Italy and one of the main rating agencies in Europe.

Business situation

As the volume of financial data has grown exponentially, the innovation and Data Department sought solutions and resources to expose this data and understand the connections within.

Solution

Cerved's team quickly developed a graph-based analysis and visualization web application using the Linkurious SDK. The application enables Italian companies to easily identify the financial connections of their suppliers or partners to respect compliance regulations.

Benefits

- Faster go-to-market with an application operational in a few weeks.
- Intuitive visualization interface unlocks the value of connected data.
- Easy access to critical insights for compliance with AML regulations and risk assessments.

Cerved gives businesses and institutions the data to guide their decisions, the tools to understand it, and a team of people to turn it into action.

They provide credit information, marketing and credit management services, as well as counting one of the leading European rating agencies within their group. They help their clients manage risk and opportunities arising from their business relations and assess their partners' financial profile and reliability.

Within the group, the Innovation and Data department is in charge of imagining new solutions and services. They work to deliver advanced capabilities to connect businesses to the knowledge and information they need. →

“With Graph4you, we are able to help our customers deal with procurement, visualization and investigation of potential conflicts of interest between vendors.

We also help them with fraud detection and business intelligence. Companies can discover hidden relationships in documents like transfer of registration or insurance claims. They can determine the key players in the network structures of companies or corporate groups.”

- Stefano Gatti

Head of Innovation
& Data Sources



Working with the challenges of big data

Cerved provides its clients with a collection of information on Italian businesses, representing more than 6 million companies. These resources, ranging from financial statements to rating analytics, represent gigabytes of data stored in a variety of formats: PDF files, spreadsheet reports, and more.

“This type of data requires that users read the information in a sequential way and deal with multiple documents simultaneously,” says Stefano Gatti, Head of Innovation & Data Sources.

“We understood early on that graph visualization was a powerful and intuitive tool to discover valuable information about relationships in complex connected data.”

The overall size of the datasets, the variety of files and the need for users to quickly analyze connections within the data represent a few of the hurdles faced by Cerved’s Innovation & Data team.

“This is time-consuming compared to the possibilities of viewing and exploring a dynamic network. We understood early on that graph visualization was a powerful and intuitive tool to discover valuable information about relationships in complex connected data.” →

The solution: offering the data through a graph visualization interface



Needing to provide their clients with a dynamic way to access and exploit connected data, Cerved's Innovation team developed Graph4you, a graph-based visualization application.

“We had no doubt that we needed to provide a product based on graph visual representations and interactions to make a significant difference in how quickly and easily the user can identify key patterns from a data set that would be impossible to see in tabular form,” explained Stefano Gatti.

The team needed an accessible graph visualization JavaScript library to quickly create a minimum viable product of their web application. They also needed advanced features to fit Cerved's data specificities and clients' needs such as various layout algorithms, node clustering, and the possibility to export the data.

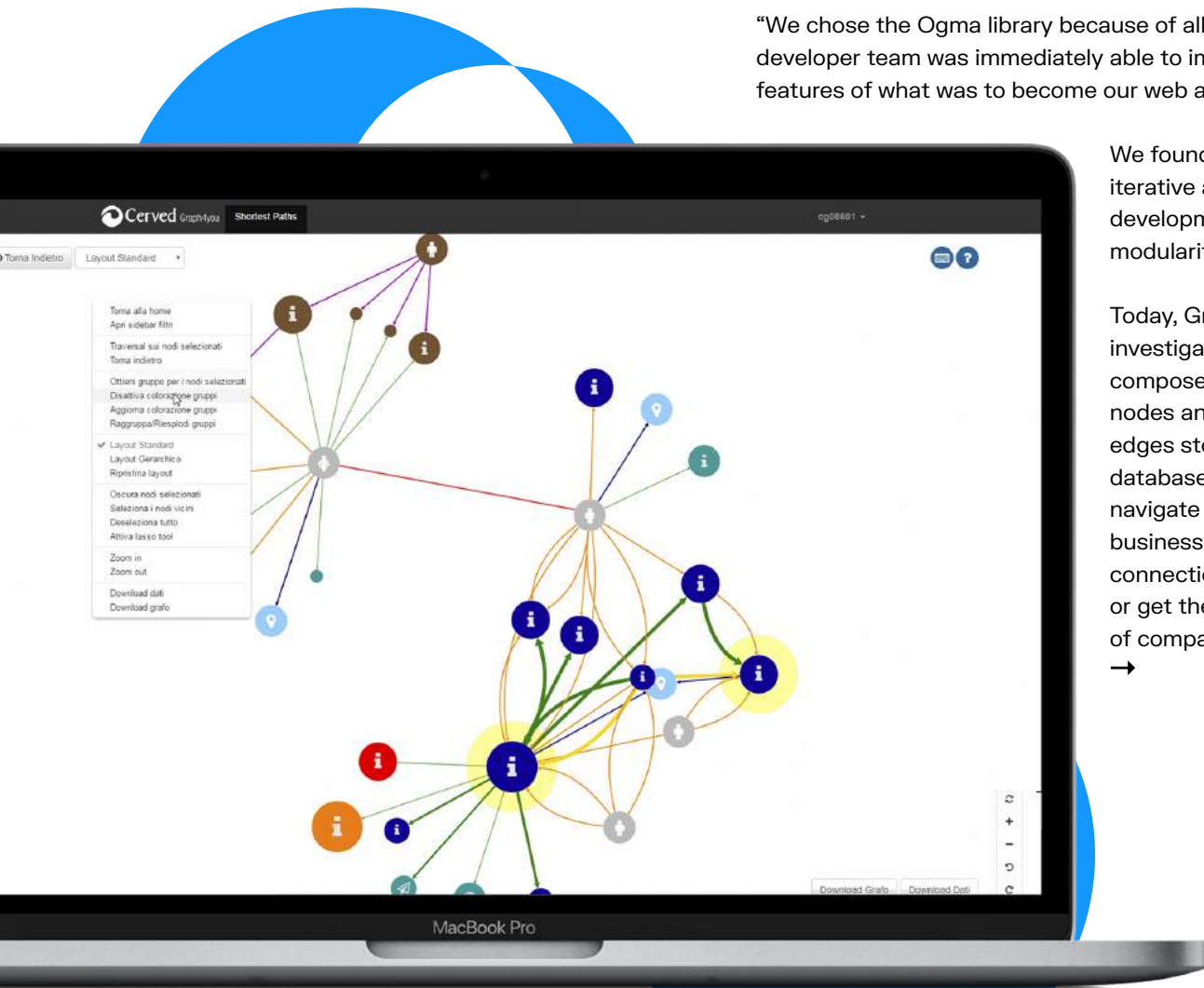
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“We chose the Ogma library because of all the features. Our developer team was immediately able to implement the key features of what was to become our web app, Graph4you.

We found it easy to follow an iterative and incremental development thanks to the modularity of Ogma.”

Today, Graph4you users can investigate a network composed of 30 millions of nodes and 60 millions of edges stored in a Neo4j graph database. They can query and navigate through the Italian business network to discover connections between entities or get the corporate linkages of companies and individuals. →



The benefits: a robust interface delivering insights

With Graph4you, the Innovation and Data team developed a solution strengthening the value of Cerved data resources. They provided the company and their clients with an intuitive tool to understand the connections within the data, allowing them to easily assess critical insights for compliance with AML regulations and risk assessments.

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The team reported a faster go-to-market process with Linkurious. In a few weeks, they managed to deliver a tailored graph application capable of handling large volumes of connected data and answering Cerved's clients' needs.

"The principal benefit was the time-to-market. In the MVP stage, we released a product in only a few weeks. Now, Graph4you is a robust application that, thanks to Ogma, allows Cerved to offer the best technology available for a graph-based web application. We are able to manage thousands of nodes on the same graph without problems and at same time produce useful insights for the user," said Stefano Gatti. 🗨️

Photo by Alina Grubnyak.

About us

Linkurious offers an intuitive financial crime investigation platform that enables swift and precise detection and investigation of even the most sophisticated criminal networks for optimal risk mitigation and protection. More than 3000 investigators in Global 2000

companies, public organizations, governments, and NGOs use Linkurious to harness their complex connected data and uncover fraud and money laundering schemes that would otherwise remain hidden.

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