



**For immediate release  
October 20, 2015**

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## **Press Release**

### *Small Business Administration Demos First-ever DATA Act Visualization Platform at Data Coalition Breakfast*

**Washington, D.C.** - The Data Transparency Coalition (DTC) applauded the Small Business Administration for teeing off on [DATA Act](#) implementation. The Coalition hosted a breakfast at PwC to provide an opportunity to hear from the front-line DATA Act implementers—the Small Business Administration (SBA), the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA), and the White House Office of Management and Budget (OMB).

At the breakfast, Tim Gribben, the Deputy Chief Financial Officer of the Small Business Administration, demonstrated his agency's first-ever DATA Act visualization platform. By successfully linking the SBA's financial and award data, the agency was able to view its spending in its entirety—from accounting, budget, and appropriation to grants and contracts—in a single portal.

Veterans Affairs Deputy Assistant Secretary for Finance Laurie Park called her agency's 150 plus disparate and siloed financial systems the "Wild West," and hoped the DATA Act would help provide clarity for the troubled agency.

Ms. Park highlighted the scarce resources and lack of funding designated for the federal agencies mandated implement the law. Gribben echoed Park's views, explaining SBA was given no additional funding to implement the DATA Act and it is out of necessity that agencies are moving forward with implementation.

Mark Reger, Deputy Controller, Office of Management and Budget, called the DATA Act the "Star Wars" of Federal Financial reporting, because if it is fully implemented the federal government's finances will be "light years ahead" of the financial and programmatic information available today.

Hudson Hollister, Executive Director of the Data Transparency Coalition, said, "The DATA Act isn't just about government transparency. If the executive branch is able to conquer tough management challenges and resource limitations and transform its financial information from documents into searchable data, then CFO shops will be able to deploy powerful, cheap management tools that make everything work better. Tim Gribben's demonstration today from the Small Business Administration gave us a first taste. Laurie Park's support from the Department of Veterans Affairs shows that big agencies can get into data, too."

For a screen shot of the Small Business Administration's DATA Act platform, click [here](#).

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### **About the Data Transparency Coalition**

The Data Transparency Coalition is the only trade association pursuing the publication of government information as standardized, machine-readable data. Through advocacy, education, and collaboration, the

Coalition supports policy reforms that require consistent data standardization and publication. Data transparency enhances accountability, improves government management, reduces compliance costs, and stimulates innovation. Representing a cross-section of the technology industry, the Data Transparency Coalition membership includes market leaders such as Teradata Corporation, Workiva, RR Donnelley, PwC, Booz Allen Hamilton, and CGI Federal and growing start-ups such as FindTheBest, Enigma.io, and Level One Technologies. For more information, visit [here](#).