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Meet Vladimir Alexiev – Ontotext's expert on ontology engineering and Linked Open Data in cultural heritage.

Since 2010 I, Vladimir Alexiev, have been working at Ontotext, one of the spin-offs of the Sirma software group that five friends and I had set up back in 1992. Ontotext started working on projects as a research lab in 2000 and became an independent company specializing in Semantic Technology in 2008. Sirma Group, meanwhile, has expanded to become Bulgaria's largest software group, employing some 400 staff. Sirma Group was listed on the Bulgarian Stock Exchange in 2015.

Apart from managing large-scale projects at Sirma, I've always been passionate about working on exciting research projects. I've always worked at Sirma companies and joined the Semantic Technology developer in 2010. Here at Ontotext I've been working on data conversion, data integration, metadata, Linked Open Data (LOD), semantic enrichment and ontologies.

Ontotext's Quest for Context

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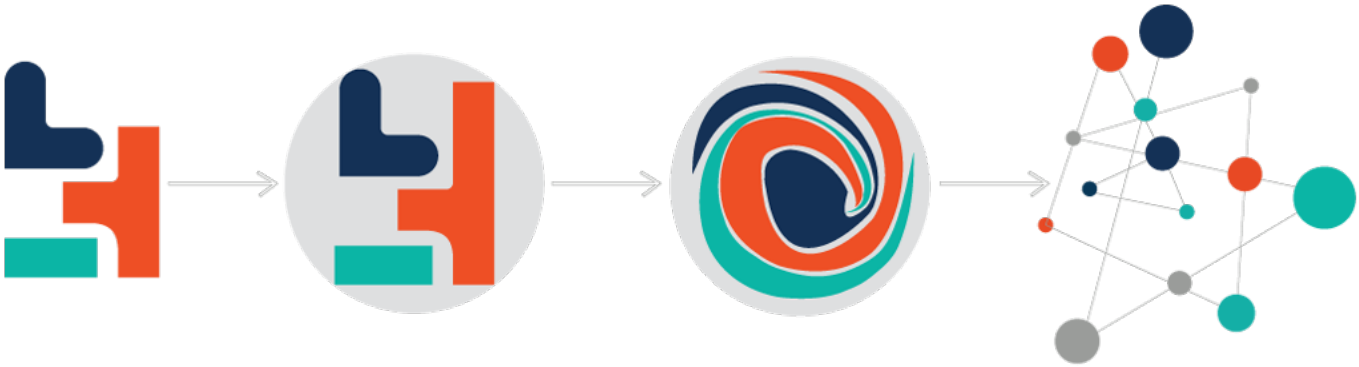

As a Semantic Technology company, Ontotext develops and offers solutions to help organizations add context to content by extracting meaning out of diverse heterogeneous data. Its semantic graph database GraphDB handles massive loads of data and links and infers links between raw disparate datasets.

This kind of semantic repository, which uses ontologies to automatically and logically reason about data, reveals hidden relationships between entities and concepts by inferencing new knowledge from existing facts. This Resource Description Framework database is compatible with the Linked Open Data standards.

At Ontotext, we are working to further develop the LOD cloud so as to help graph database users obtain highly-interlinked relevant knowledge. Publishers, life sciences and healthcare groups, the e-Government, museums, and archives are using Ontotext's Semantic Technology to power a smarter knowledge discovery, and to search, retrieve, reuse or repurpose their content faster and more cost-efficiently.

Solutions for Publishers

Ontotext, which has been investing in research and working on 36 EU projects since 2001, has been focusing on commercial projects since 2008. The BBC Sport linked data platform is the best-known example of an industrial-scale application of Ontotext's Semantic Technology. Publishing – including Content Packaging and Reuse and Scientific Publishing – is

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one of Ontotext's strongest businesses, with the BBC, the Financial Times, Euromoney, UK & NL Press Associations, Wiley, IET being some of our most notable clients.

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