

Babel Street Vendor Vetting Solution

BABEL STREET INSIGHTS

Vendor vetting is a comprehensive evaluation of companies to determine their suitability for U.S. Government partnerships, particularly in critical industries, defense capabilities, and contested environments. It extends beyond traditional supply chain risks, such as environmental or logistical disruptions, to identify and mitigate vendor threats posed by near-peer adversaries like China and Russia, as well as other hostile actors like Iran or violent extremist organizations (VEOs). These adversaries deliberately attempt to penetrate U.S. supply chains by obscuring vendor relationships and activities through complex ownership structures, seeking to infiltrate critical industries, disrupt operations, and inflict reputational harm.

Vendor vetting examines a vendor's ownership, financial health, geopolitical ties, cybersecurity posture, regulatory compliance, and overall risk profile to ensure vendors do not pose hidden threats through illicit activities that could compromise national security, operational integrity, and mission-critical operations. These threats include:

- Competition for critical resources —semiconductors, pharmaceuticals, critical minerals, etc.
- Cyber attack and exploitation of digital resources
- Complex foreign ownership, control, or influence (FOCI)
- Increasing reliance on foreign manufacturing and engineering for critical technologies

Unfortunately, the existing capabilities to identify and assess vendor risks are insufficient in many ways:

- **Limited Transparency** – Current solutions rely on limited data sources or have English-only data; have low visibility into risk scoring methodologies; or fail to disclose sources of data.
- **Comprehensiveness of Risk** – Many solutions assess vendor risk with a narrow focus, such as financial or cybersecurity risk, or inadequate data coverage.
- **Continuous Monitoring** – Solutions today are limited in their ability to shift from static to dynamic risk assessments, often resulting in manual and point-in-time assessments that leave organizations vulnerable to new or emerging risks.
- **Interoperability** – Many solutions lack interoperability with existing U.S. government systems operating in a multi-layer security (MLS) environment, or fail to incorporate flexible data-sharing options that complicate cross-platform collaboration and automation.

What's at risk?

The current state of vendor vetting creates vulnerabilities that can lead to significant negative consequences:

- **National and global security threats** — Compromised supply chains can expose sensitive equipment, technologies, and data, potentially jeopardizing national security interests and critical infrastructure.
- **Operational disruptions and delays** — Lengthy vendor approval processes can disrupt the flow of goods and services, leading to project delays, increased costs, and loss of operational efficiencies that erode decision advantage.

- **Reputational damage** — Unknowingly doing business with sanctioned entities or those linked to adversaries can cause irreparable harm to an agency's reputation and undermine confidence in its personnel and mission.

How Babel Street Can Help

Babel Street enhances supply chain resiliency efforts by identifying potential risks throughout the supply chain. By leveraging insights from diverse data sources and viewing them through Babel Street's proprietary risk framework, the platform offers a comprehensive picture of vendor risk, enabling agencies to implement effective mitigation strategies to safeguard their supply chains.

Babel Street streamlines this process by automating data collection and analysis, enabling faster risk assessment and procurement decisions without sacrificing thoroughness. Its speed and efficiency are vital for agencies needing to respond quickly to changing requirements.

Capabilities include:

Comprehensive data — Babel Street provides expansive collections of publicly and commercially available information (PAI/CAI), including from hard-to-reach or access-denied data environments. Our extensive proxy network with over 60,000 egress points enables analysts to transcend borders and bypass geo-restrictions to access information from any corner of the globe.

AI-driven insights and risk assessment models — The solution applies AI to optimize the vetting process, leveraging advanced analytics and a proprietary risk rubric to identify and evaluate potential risks automatically.

Continuous monitoring and vetting — Supply chain risks are constantly developing, so the Babel Street solution provides a near-real time view of vendor risk profiles, alerting users to changes and helping them stay ahead of emerging threats.

Knowledge graph — A dynamic, interactive knowledge graph visually maps relationships between companies, people, and documents that may be hidden or intentionally obfuscated by nation-state adversaries. This identifies and organizes entities including individuals, businesses, subsidiaries, partners and key affiliates, displaying direct and indirect relationships, hierarchical structures, and lateral associations.

Streamlined workflow — By automating key aspects of the vetting process, Babel Street helps reduce manual research time to accelerate vendor approval and clear backlogs that may be delaying critical procurements.

Robust text analytics and name matching — Fully integrated AI-powered analytics enables multilingual smart search, name matching, and entity resolution capabilities. Babel Street leverages these AI-powered analytics to develop integrated, custom-curated risk frameworks and analytic models that are aligned with operational priorities related to vendor due diligence, threat analysis, and supply chain transparency.

Babel Street's Vendor Vetting solution addresses the rapidly evolving challenges of modern supply chain risks by providing comprehensive, real-time insights that enhance decision advantage and safeguard national security. By leveraging globally diverse data sources, AI-driven risk models, and continuous risk monitoring, Babel Street empowers agencies and organizations to proactively identify, assess, and mitigate vendor risks across global supply chains. Our technology solution stands as a critical enabler for secure, resilient, and vetted supply chains in today's increasingly interconnected world.

Babel Street is the trusted technology partner for the world's most advanced identity intelligence and risk operations. The Babel Street Insights platform delivers advanced AI and data analytics solutions to close the Risk-Confidence Gap.

Babel Street provides unmatched, analysis-ready data regardless of language, proactive risk identification, 360-degree insights, high-speed automation, and seamless integration into existing systems. We empower government and commercial organizations to transform high-stakes identity and risk operations into a strategic advantage.

Learn more at babelstreet.com.