FREE INSURANCE DATA
INITIATIVE

OPEN INSURANCE API: FOLLOWING PSD2 AND OPEN BANKING NEW INITIATIVE STARTS FOR OPEN INTERFACES AND EFFICIENT DATA TRANSFER IN THE INSURANCE SECTOR

Berlin, January 7th, 2020. ALTE LEIPZIGER - HALLESCHE, EY, Friendsurance and InsurLab Germany initiate Germany-wide Free Insurance Data Initiative (FRIDA) for a uniform interface standard among insurance companies and more efficient data exchange.

Data transfer so far: Slow, cost-intensive, inefficient

The second stage of the PSD2 is in place since September 2019. The directive allows the transfer of bank data without discrimination against third party providers. The regulators aim to stimulate competition while maintaining the data sovereignty of customers. In the insurance industry, on the other hand, there is still a lack of uniform, digital interfaces that enable the fast and paperless transfer of information between insurance companies, brokers and of course also the customers. "The goal of our initiative is to enable customers to handle insurance matters quickly while maintaining data sovereignty through standardized processes and solutions – comparable to PSD2 in banking," says Sebastian Langrehr, Head of Digital Bancassurance at Friendsurance. "We are figuring out how open interfaces should be organized so that insurance companies, agents and brokers as well as customers benefit equally. Among other things we are considering what lessons can be learned for the insurance industry from the experiences with open banking and which new use cases platform economy can bring to customers".

Establish interface standards before the regulators set them

Against this background, the digital insurance platform Friendsurancebusiness.com and other partners launched the non-profit initiative Free Insurance Data. Under the patronage of InsurLab Germany and under the leadership of ALTE LEIPZIGER - HALLESCHE, EY and Friendsurance, the initiative aims to establish an industry-wide interface standard for fast and secure data exchange while reducing process and operating costs. The initiative is supported by executives of large insurance companies, insurtechs and management consultancy companies. "We are convinced that in the age of digitalization and platform economy, it is time to jointly think ahead and develop the interfaces of the next generation. We are very happy to take a leading role in shaping this initiative including members such as ALTE LEIPZIGER - HALLESCHE and EY. Our aim is to develop future-oriented interfaces for all market participants together with relevant market participants", says Sebastian Pitzler from InsurLab Germany.

Open interfaces for better customer experience

"As an insurer, we are highly interested in providing our customers and their advisors with an overview of all insurance and financial matters. In the context of our financial home platform fin4u a standardized B2C interface is the next logical step to complete this service", explains Julius Kretz of ALTE LEIPZIGER - HALLESCHE.

"We believe in positive impulses by strengthening the data sovereignty of our clients. Strategically we focus on the topics 'API Economy' and 'Open Insurance'. That is why we have been involved in FRIDA from the very beginning", adds Guido Leber from ALTE LEIPZIGER - HALLESCHE.

Ready-made API as a not-for-profit offering

In many cases, the exchange of data between insurers is still happening via paper FRIDA will offer insurance companies, third party providers and customers who want to use or create value-added services based on their data a ready-to-use interface solution. "The GDV data service VU-Vermittler' and 'BiPRO' as two of the few existing standard formats for data transfer are first steps in the right direction. We want to build on this and use the initiative to develop standardised interfaces and make them available for the industry," said Thomas Schmerling from EY. "It is clear, without efficient data flow there is no future for innovative business models."

About Friendsurance Germany

We believe that dealing with insurance should bring a smile on your face. That's why Friendsurance develops innovative digital insurance solutions with the aim of making insurance more customer-friendly.

As an independent insurance broker Friendsurance cooperates with over 175 insurance companies, serves nearly 150,000 customers and introduced the world's first peer-to-peer insurance model in 2010. Since 2017, the company has been operating an additional business segment: digital bancassurance, i.e. the digitization of insurance transactions for banks or insurance companies and their customers. With the brand Friendsurance Business the company offers a digital, scalable and modular bancassurance platform for national and international partners such as Deutsche Bank and R+V Versicherung.

The company currently employs around 100 people in its headquarter based in Berlin. For further information please visit: https://www.friendsurance.com/news-center/

Press office Friendsurance

Alecto GmbH
Eva Genzmer
Mehringdamm 34
10961 Berlin
Germany
Phone: +49 (0) 30 3440998 30
Email: press@friendsurance.de