About JOTA

**JOTA** is an information provider that seeks to give transparency to public information, provide greater legal security to the market, and transform society through specialized, technical, impartial, and nimble journalism.
LAVA JOTA
Since 2014, Brazilian politics have been enmeshed in its largest corruption scandal ever. **Carwash Operation** (Operação Lava Jato) revealed a large corruption scheme involving private contractors and public entities that promoted illegal campaign financing and facilitated the embezzlement of billions.

The scale of the operation was unprecedented in Brazil. Following the scandal, there were more than 1100 Carwash Operation cases under review at federal, regional, and Supreme courts; meanwhile, the federal police had been forced to build new software to process data, as more than **1.2 million gigabytes had been collected during the investigations**.
The Case

How many countries are involved in the Carwash investigations?

A) 13
B) 27
C) 49
To address the challenge of analyzing such a body of information, Jota launched “Lava Jota”, a public database of judicial information related to Carwash. We put together all of Carwash’s legal actions on a single website and built an integrated search engine that allows you to search for keywords within each of the documents attached to the processes.
Brazil’s Judicial System, more transparent than ever

Everything you need to know about Carwash Operation, but did not know who to ask

#LAVAJOTA

Tudo que você sempre quis saber sobre a Operação Lava Jato, mas nunca soube a quem perguntar.

Cases; People Involved; Videos

Exact term search
Techniques:

- **Web scraping** script for downloading data.
- We gathered the documents in a **database management system** and made them available with searching functionalities on our webpage.
- We transformed all documents into searchable **text** and put them on our database.
- We utilized **technology to transcribe and classify videos of depositions**, and then had our reporters check the result.
- We structured part of the data and **generated a list of the involved people**.

Tools:

- **Python** for coding the crawlers.
- **R language** to analyze structured data.
- **Elasticsearch** system for handling the documents.
- **Microsoft Video Indexer** for indexing and transcribing videos.
- **d3.js** for the generation of data visualizations to display some of our structured data.
Every case that came from the Carwash Operation, with all their respective files and documents, searchable in one place.

Free access, available for all society.

Example: Read here testimonies of all of the Odebrecht executives that entered into cooperation agreements with Brazilian authorities.

*Lançamento previsto para o dia da divulgação das delações da Odebrecht.*
Over 1100 cases on file – all the legal processes filed in Brazilian courts, including regional courts, the Superior Court of Justice, and the Supreme Court - UPDATED DAILY

UPDATED database with names of all parties involved and the status of each case
First phase of **business intelligence** review of data brought in by the cases, allowing a deeper analysis of trends in the investigations.

Example: Analysis of results of cases stemming from the Odebrecht cooperation agreement, with number of criminal suits, convictions, charges, and more.
The Case

Do you have an equivalent tool in your country?

A) YES

B) NO

C) YES BUT NOT WITH THE SAME REACH
Measuring impact: pageviews around the world

Lava Jota has received more than 310 thousand pageviews since its launching, with 251 thousand unique pageviews.
Lava Jota has been utilized in more than 30 countries; the top 5 are Brazil, the United States, the Dominican Republic, Peru, and Panama.
**Challenges**

- **Financial:** JOTA built Lava Jota as a *pro bono project*. The financial resources received from sponsors and partners, like law and technology firms and Transparency International, only paid for the production costs. JOTA invested a lot of personnel time in order to make this information available to society.

- **Operational:** The magnitude of the Carwash Operation required a *tremendous operational effort* in a team of 25 editorial staff *total*. For example, uploading videos of court sessions and testimonies to YouTube can take hours, and there are dozens of such videos here. Also, automatic video transcription can take hours and is not perfect. A reporter must be assigned to read the transcript, identify key issues, and then choose the most important tags in each submission. *We haven't yet been able to do this for even half the material available.*

*There's still plenty to do.*
And we are just getting started! Lava Jota will continue applying intelligence to the data and offering a never-before seen window into the Brazilian Justice System.
Would an equivalent tool be useful to you?

A) YES

A) NO