

## The General Data Protection Regulation: TerraLex Firms Deliver Value

TerraLex member firm Loschelder in Germany advises a leading global manufacturer of engineered automotive structural metal components and assemblies primarily serving original equipment manufacturers ("OEMs") in various matters, including data protection law. The Europe headquarters of the US-company are based in Germany with branch offices across the European region.

The company recognises Loschelder's leading expertise across a range of practice areas and also trusts Loschelder's global capabilities delivered through the TerraLex network.

When the company realised they needed advice on the implementation of the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR), due to come in to force across EU member states in May 2018, they turned to Loschelder. Kristina Schreiber, Partner specialising in data protection issues at the firm explains further.



"We were approached by our client in 2017 to assist them with implementation of the GDPR in Germany and a number of other European countries. Having worked on cross border projects for the company with our colleagues in TerraLex member firms across Europe previously, our client was aware of our TerraLex membership and what it can deliver. When GDPR compliance requirements were put on the agenda in the client's various branches in January 2018, they asked us to act as lead counsel for a project, coordinating input from 6 jurisdictions. We quickly assessed the client's needs and knew that we could meet them by working with TerraLex member firms – GDPR requires extensive knowledge of the EU

regulation but also data management and protection laws in specific jurisdictions and that is what TerraLex member firms offer."

Kristina made contact with member firms in Belgium, Luxembourg, Poland, the Czech and Slovak Republics and the Netherlands, using a template for the advice the client needed in the first stage of the project.

"Member firms' responsiveness was, as usual, impressive; it was easy to find the right specialist at each firm or the TerraLex member representative quickly put me in touch with the right person. The first phase of the project had a short deadline which required concise, clear responses to our questions about jurisdictional implementation – and that is what the member firms delivered. I was able quickly to consolidate responses with little or no editing in to a summary for our client which they are now reviewing."

The second phase of the project will require more in-depth advice from local specialists, following the client's review of the initial input. The project is expected to progress over the coming weeks up to and during implementation.

"Currently, GDPR is a key issue for many of our clients who manage complex data across jurisdictions. It's crucial for us to be able to demonstrate to our clients that we have the capability to deliver on cross border projects of this nature through our TerraLex membership. Member firms have leading experts in a number of practice areas; they have vast experience of managing these types of projects, working with colleagues across the network, and their responsiveness is outstanding. They are also delightful to work with! I am looking forward to delivering more value to our client in the next phase of this key project."

## WWW.TERRALEX.ORG