Using AI- powered Technology to Improve Human Trafficking Investigations

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A businessman visits an impoverished village, promising young people good jobs in a large city. The youth follow him out of the country. Once they reach their destination, the businessman confiscates their passports. He forces them to work for 16 to 18 hours each day, for little or no pay, in sweatshops that produce knock-off electronics.

The head of a prostitution ring hires thugs to monitor an unmanned border crossing. These men lie in wait until they see young, undocumented women attempting to cross. The criminals then kidnap them for use in the prostitution ring.

According to "Global Estimates of Modern Slavery," more than 27 million people worldwide were enslaved as forced laborers in 2021[1] — either in the private sector, or as part of commercial sexual exploitation rings. (Some of these rings promote the sexual exploitation of children.) These activities, which are enabled by human trafficking, generate profits of more than US$150 billion annually.[2]

Spotting and stopping human trafficking are vitally important efforts for halting the spread of forced labor and sexual exploitation. But human trafficking is hard to detect — requiring a vigilant, always-on approach by law enforcement.

AI-powered data analysis helps stop human trafficking

Five billion people currently use the Internet, creating roughly 120 zettabytes of information each year.[3] (A zettabyte is a unit of measurement equivalent to 1 sextillion bytes, or 2 to the 70th power.) Properly examined, this information can provide law enforcement with critical insight needed to halt human trafficking.

The Babel Street Insights platform provides AI-enabled persistent searches of thousands of sources of publicly available information (PAI) and commercially available information (CAI). Web information published in more than 200 languages can be translated into your language of choice. The platform's Babel Data Library is the world's largest and most diverse collection of enriched data, originating from more than a billion top-level domains; commercially and publicly available sources; and real-world interactions generated on chats, social media posts, online comments, and message boards. Advertising technology-based geolocation and telemetry data is also available to qualifying government organizations.

What is persistent search?

Persistent search is a technology that keeps a search operation open whether someone is using it or not, recording updates and changes, then automatically appending this information to the search term.

The Insights platform further enhances investigations through searches of the deep web and dark web — or web sites that are inaccessible by standard search engines. Because the nature of the tools used to access the dark web ensures anonymity, it is a hotbed of illegal activity — including human trafficking. Deep- and dark-web search capabilities enable investigators to quickly and efficiently find information they wouldn't otherwise be able to access.

Using Babel Street can help law enforcement officials:

- Identify potential traffickers and victims

- Analyze PAI, CAI, and dark web data for insights into trafficking patterns, criminal recruitment methods, and recruitment advertising

- Use geolocation and telemetry data to track suspected human traffickers during investigations that include surveillance and enforcement operations, increasing the likelihood of successful outcomes

Get immediate insights to drive impactful results

With Babel Street, the world's most trusted brands dramatically improve speed to insight and drive measurable results. The rate and volume of PAI data is massive and growing exponentially larger every single day. Here are some of the ways Babel Street provides the most extensive, relevant reach to empower our customers to stay ahead of the pace of data and drive mission-critical success:

233%
Increase in average identifiers per entity (from 3 to 10+)

270+
Entity investigations processed per day (up from 5)

80%
Decrease in costs for a single-entity discovery

20s
For a single-entity discovery (down from 90 minutes)

1. Walk Free, "Global Estimates of Modern Slavery," accessed June 2023, https://www.walkfree.org/reports/global-estimates-of-modern-slavery-2022/#:~:text=Forced%20Labour%20and%20Forced%20Marriage,that%20they%20were%20forced%20into.
2. International Labour Organization, "Statistics on Forced Labour, Modern Slavery and Human Trafficking," accessed June 2023, https://www.ilo.org/global/topics/forced-labour/statistics/lang--en/index.htm
3. Duarte, Fabio, Amount of Data Created Daily (2023), April 2023, https://explodingtopics.com/blog/data-generated-per-day

Babel Street. Unlock the Most Insights that Matter.

Babel Street Insights is an advanced data analytics and intelligence platform trusted by governments and businesses around the globe. It empowers law enforcement officials, border security personnel and others to identify potential human traffickers, and stop the scourge of enforced labor.

Learn more at **babelstreet.com.**

BABEL STREET

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