



Qwant becomes the search engine of the French administration

Qwant welcomes the choice made by the French government to deploy Qwant as its default search engine for the administration. This confirmation is a recognition of Qwant's technological qualities and its ability to propose an alternative offer that meets the challenges of personal data protection and digital sovereignty.

Paris, January 10, 2020 - During Vivatech 2019, Cédric O, Secretary of State for the Digital Economy, announced that the Information Systems Departments (DSI) of the French administrations would be invited to install Qwant as their default search engine. The State services have indeed identified a series of technical and legal criteria to be met by a search engine installed by default on the workstations of government employees, and then determined that *"the only one capable of fulfilling the government's expectations"* is Qwant.

This choice, after a phase of audits for which Qwant gave access to all its source codes, is today confirmed by a note sent to all administrations by the Interministerial Digital Directorate (DINUM), as reported in the press.

Thanks to its technological choices, the relevance of which is thereby recognized, Qwant makes it possible to guarantee the non-traceability of searches and the non-correlation of queries and thus to ensure an optimum level of confidentiality of the searches made by public officials in their professional environment. Qwant is also a European solution with the capability for an autonomous indexing and ranking of search results.

Many already operated switches

In addition to growing public support, since 2018 major public and private bodies have already chosen Qwant. On the public side, the French National Assembly, the Economic, Social and Environmental Council, the French Ministry of the Armed Forces, the CNES, the CEA, the Bank of France, certain government departments and ministries use Qwant on a daily basis. Local authorities, anxious to commit to a trustworthy and inclusive digital environment, have massively switched to Qwant: 10 of the 13 regions of France are using or are in the process of switching over to Qwant. Many departments, including Hauts-de-Seine, Ille-et-Vilaine, Haute-Garonne ... have made the same choice. Small, medium-sized towns and cities also use Qwant by default, such as Paris, Rennes, Nice, Toulouse, Issy-les-Moulineaux, Valence-Roman Agglo, Le Trilport ...

On the private sector side, apart from private individuals concerned about their privacy, many VSEs, SMEs and TWAs, and emblematic groups have chosen to adopt by default our search engine. Among which: Thalès, Safran, Crédit Agricole, BNP Paribas, Caisse d'Epargne, France Télévisions, MGEN, AG2R La Mondiale, Allianz, Groupe Nice Matin, Michelin France, Bodez... Qwant currently represents 4 to 5% of the research market in France.

For Eric Léandri*: ***"Qwant has strong technological asset. The State's switch to Qwant is authentic recognition that validate our technological orientations and our choice to make the protection of personal data a driving value. It is proof that we can build a technological offering in France that meets our sovereignty challenges. I am proud of our teams and I would like to thank the government for the trust placed in us "***

For Jean-Claude Ghinozzi*: ***"The strong growth in our traffic is proof of the support for our services. We are honored to receive this recognition, which confirms our expertise and that we have made the right choices to differentiate ourselves in the online search market. We will continue to develop our core technology to further enhance our product quality and build a coherent suite of services that meet the expectations of our users. This choice made by the government is also a pledge of confidence for our users, citizens and companies, who are or will be subscribing to the Qwant experience".***

* Eric Leandri is co-founder of Qwant SAS. He will hand over the presidency to Jean-Claude Ghinozzi on January 15, 2020 and will become President of Qwant's Strategic and Scientific Committee and member of the Governance Council.

About Qwant

Designed and developed in France, Qwant is the first European search engine to have its own web indexing technology, which protects the privacy of its users by refusing any tracking device for advertising purposes. Unlike the main search engines on the market, Qwant does not install any cookies on the user's browser, does not ask who he is or what he does, and does not keep a history of the requests made. With a warm interface that leaves a lot of room for results, Qwant makes it possible to find the information you are looking for efficiently on the entire Web and social networks, while respecting total neutrality. Qwant treats all indexed sites and services without discrimination, without changing the order of results according to its own interests or the sensitivities of the user. Qwant handled more than 18 billion requests in 2018.

<https://www.qwant.com>

Media contacts

Henry Conseil | (+33)1 46 22 76 43 | agence@henryconseil.com

Samuel Pujol | (+33)6 61 88 44 66 | s.pujol@qwant.com