Research on how to make data publicly accessible

Introduction

The aim of this document is to discover possible ways of making publicly available information accessible to the general public. For the project, there was a limitation with the blockchain platform which had a character limit as to what can be stored in the blockchain. To solve this issue, products were given unique identifiers, and information hashed so that the length is reduced and it could fit into the blockchain.

What is publicly available information

Publicly available information is defined as "information that has been published or broadcast for public consumption, is available on request to the public, is accessible online or otherwise to the public, is available to the public by subscription or purchase, could be seen or heard by any casual observer, is made available at a meeting open to the public, or is obtained by visiting any place or attending any event that is open to the public." (Mukasey, 2008)

Different ways to store public information
- Public database
- Web server
- Cloud

Storing this information in a web server or the cloud makes it more accessible to the public, with the added bonus that it can be consulted from anywhere in the world where there is internet access.

In terms of redundancy, there could be multiple servers that host the information. The information would replicate to each other.

Mukasey, M.B., 2008. The Attorney General's Guidelines for Domestic FBI Operations. *Retrieved August*, *8*, p.2009.