

Corporate Linkage glossary



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Headquarters: A business with at least one additional branch. A headquarters has financial responsibility for the branches.

Branch: When a business has multiple locations, the secondary locations are known as branches. In many cases, a branch may pay its own bills, but the legal responsibility for the debt belongs to the headquarters.

Subsidiary: A corporation with more than 50 percent of its stock owned by another corporation.

- Headquarters may or may not be a subsidiary
- Branches and global ultimate parents are never a subsidiary
- Single locations always are a subsidiary

Global ultimate parent: The topmost responsible entity within the corporate hierarchy, the global ultimate parent always has branches and/or subsidiaries.

Parent company: A business with at least one subsidiary (controls more than 50 percent of another corporation's stock). If a parent company has branches, it is a headquarters as well as a parent company.

Single-location subsidiary:

A corporation with more than 50 percent of its stock owned by another corporation but with no branches or subsidiaries.

Standalone business: A single entity that is not part of a family tree.

Level indicator: This field provides a numeric value that describes the level in the family tree where a record resides.

Hierarchy levels for relationship reporting purposes: Each corporate family tree has three levels of hierarchy defined. These levels are present on all corporate family trees (linked records). These levels are not present on standalone businesses (unlinked records).

1. Global-ultimate-level business identification number (BIN)
 - Represents the highest member of the entire corporate hierarchy
 - Referred to as the ultimate parent for all members of the family tree
 - All members of a family tree have the same global ultimate BIN
2. Parent- or headquarters-level BIN
 - Represents the immediate entity above the location-level BIN
 - For branches, this would be referred to as the headquarters BIN
 - For subsidiaries, this would be referred to as the immediate parent BIN
 - Also referred to as the "one up" BIN because it is directly above the location-level BIN on the family tree
3. Location-level BIN
 - Represents the specific location inquired upon and on which data is being returned

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