The empirical analysis in "Occupational Upgrading and the Business Cycle in West Germany" is based on administrative data from the German social security system. Access to these micro data is regulated in the German Social Code Book 10. In principle researchers can apply to get these data at the Statistical Office of the German Federal Employment Agency. But the application process is costly in terms of time and money and the application has to be approved by the German Federal Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs. The authors offer two alternatives:

1) We provide an anonymised data set on the occupation-year level. Anonymisation is done by deletion of small cells or by adding random numbers to values in small cells. Results based on the anonymised data are very similar to those in our paper.

2) We offer to perform replications for interested researchers. But this offer can only be valid as long as we have access to the data, i.e. as long as we are employed at the Institute for Employment Research (IAB).

The Research Data Centre (FDZ) of the Federal Employment Agency (BA) at the Institute for Labour Market Research (IAB) offers similar data sets with transparent access regulations (e.g. the IAB Employment Sample IABS, see http://fdz.iab.de/en.aspx). For the replication of our study these data are not ideal because of the sampling rate of 2 percent. But for similar research questions this should pose no limitation.