

CRYPTO A.M. Our series on AI, Blockchain, Cryptoassets, DLT and Tokenisation

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In association with



PARTNER CONTENT

SPECIAL CRYPTO AM AWARDS 2020 EDITION

Welcome to this Crypto AM Awards 2020 special edition. London Blockchain Week is in full flow and today the CryptoCompare Digital Asset Summit is taking place at the new North Greenwich venue Magazine with magnificent views of London's Canary Wharf where the Crypto AM Awards will be taking place. For readers wishing to attend today's CCDAS 2020 free of charge please visit <https://summit.cryptocompare.com> click the tickets link and apply discount code CH100.

CRYPTO INSIDER

James Bowater



Blockchain which achieved a #3 ranking, being rated as a Hot New Release, in one category over the weekend. Not bad given it was released two weeks ago. If you bump into them at the LBW Finale, they may even sign a copy.

As is commonplace now for this column, I cannot avoid Coronavirus which continues to negatively impact global markets and news feeds alike. Whilst other countries are now imposing strict gathering restrictions, the U.K. is still restriction free although it seems inevitable now that will change soon.

Yesterday the Crypto Market caught its own cold dropping another US\$30bn with many commentators linking it to the oil price situation as being the straw that broke the camel's back. At the time of writing, Bitcoin BTC is trading down at US\$7,714.02 / GB£5,890.59;



Ethereum (ETH) is at US\$191.81 / GB£146.72; Ripple (XRP) is at US\$0.2004 / GB£0.1536; Binance (BNB) is at US\$15.85 / GB£12.13 and Cardano (ADA) is at US\$0.03944 / GB£0.03022. Overall Market Cap is at US\$220.57bn / GB£175.17bn (data source: www.CryptoCompare.com).

So it's time to revisit all the categories and nominees for tomorrow's awards ceremony. City AM, the Crypto AM Team and I wish you all the very best of luck.

SOCIAL IMPACT & SUSTAINABILITY AWARD

This award will recognise those organisations that have achieved a meaningful and sustainable social impact through partnership, investment, pro bono work, or through employee-led initiatives.

- World Mobile
- Cudo Ventures

- Electroneum
- DustAid
- Zero Carbon Project
- Pollo Pollo.

COMMUNITY ENHANCEMENT AWARD

This award will recognise an organisation or industry association that has made the biggest contribution to development and improvement of the Fintech/Crypto ecosystem.

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- Chilliz
- Craft Coin
- CryptoCompare

ENTERPRISE BLOCKCHAIN AWARD

This award will recognise the company that has contributed the most to corporate blockchain adoption with a system or platform it has designed, developed or deployed demonstrating real value.

- dacs
- Pegasys
- Cygnitise

UX/UI AWARD

This award will recognise the company with the most unique focus on user experience, that makes the most effort to understand the real aims and wishes and emotions of the end users - and by doing so creates most meaningful solutions for actual needs.

- Mode Banking
- Plutus DeFi
- Zerion

EDUCATIONAL PLATFORM AWARD

This award will be for companies that have either been a leading force to educate the public outside the Blockchain industry and/or to expand the knowledge of industry participants.

- Coinfloor
- Archax
- Compass

SERVICE PROVIDER AWARD

This award will recognise companies providers that have delivered beyond the basic service for which they are paid, added value for the client and made a significant impact on the overall performance of the client's organisation(s).

- Isolus
- Eversheds Sutherland
- CMS Law

PAYMENT SERVICE PROVIDER AWARD

This award will recognise the most secure, flexible and innovative crypto payments solution. The winning entry will give evidence of an offering that is providing tangible business benefits by providing users with a fast and convenient experience.

- Xapo
- Tap.Global

- Bitstamp

DIGITAL ASSET CUSTODIAN AWARD

This award will recognise best the smart contracts and crypto-asset technologies that transform the way enterprises across industries do business.

- Koine
- Anchorage
- Gemini Trust

CRYPTO EXCHANGE PLATFORM AWARD

This award will recognise the outstanding performers in the crypto exchange space. The judges will pay particular attention to customer service, functionality, usability and of course security.

- Coinfloor
- Archax
- Compass

DEPLOYMENT IN FINTECH AWARD

This award will recognise a new, up-and-coming FinTech company that has shown the most entrepreneurial success in the past year in FinTech.

- AIX
- Mode Banking
- ConsenSys Codefi

OUTSTANDING INDUSTRY CONTRIBUTION AWARD

This award will recognise a nominated organisation or an individual who has been the most influential and/or has significantly contributed to the development of the blockchain industry.

- Charles Hayter, CryptoCompare
- Joey Garcia, Isolus LLP
- Charles Hoskinson, IOHK
- Florian Krüger & Florian Bollen, Craftcoin Coin Company
- Diego Gutierrez Zaldivar, IOV Labs
- Marta Piekarska-Geater, Hyperledger

Crypto A.M. shines its Spotlight on Copper.co

As a relatively nascent asset class notoriously associated with volatility, the institutional presence in crypto has historically been scarce. Counterparty risk and security concerns such as hacking, unsolicited withdrawals, and private key mismanagement are widely regarded as the biggest blocking factors in drawing institutional investment to this asset.

access assets, has promoted greater confidence for asset managers, and specifically their investors, to allocate more capital.

In fact, this requirement is what gave Copper its raison d'être in the first place. Back in the hysteria of 2017, there were no shortage of investors looking to allocate 1-3% of their portfolios into digital assets. But there were no qualified custodians willing to take on the challenge of private key management (which generously assumes they knew what that was in the first place).

Our first secure offline custody application took a new approach. Rather than entrust a custodian with sole access/control of private keys, we distributed the risk among the asset manager, ourselves, and a trusted third party. Using polynomial sharding to create an entire trading system with greater access controls, lower risk, and much more trust.



Dmitry Tokarev, Copper.co

the private keys, we were able to create an entire trading system with greater access controls, lower risk, and much more trust.

But like anything in this industry, times and technologies move rapidly. We're now rolling out multi-party computation (MPC) and zero knowledge proofs for key management.

Previously, while secure and trusted, the polynomial sharding method was process-heavy and cumbersome to set up, particularly when integrating accounts across 16 exchanges and 80+ digital assets. MPC will enable our clients to achieve a higher degree of security in a fraction of the

time, freeing up asset managers to spend more time focusing on generating alpha, and less time on the admin associated with digital assets and private key management.

Understanding the intricacies of cryptography is daunting, but the nuances can make the difference between an LP willing to write tickets of \$100-500k, and an LP ready to inject \$10m+.

As regulators play catch up (some better than others), and as custodians work more closely with exchanges, OTC trading desks, and traditional banking infrastructure, the emergence of prime brokerage will shortly allow off-exchange settlement and the elimination (or near-elimination) of counterparty risk. The flood of institutional money that everyone predicted in 2018's crypto-winter never materialised. In 2019 when prices stabilised and regulatory frameworks started to pop up, people said, "the winter is over, here come the institutions." But even then the flood was merely a trickle. Until we solve for counterparty risk the floodgates will remain firmly shut.

As an industry we're nearly there. As a firm, we're ready when you are.

For more information, visit: <https://copper.co/>

VERIFIABLE CREDENTIALS

Troy Norcross, Co-Founder Blockchain Rookies



Everyone has heard the story of someone who lied about their degree on their CV. The paper diploma as a credential is nice to put on the wall, but it really doesn't survive the test of a verifiable credential. With today's technology, these papers are easily forgeable. The only way to verify a diploma is to get in touch with the university and confirm that the candidate did graduate with the claimed degree. It isn't only individuals who have credentials. Businesses and organisations also have credentials which are subject to verification. These include claims of being Fair Trade, organic, ethical labour practices and more. Each of these is verifiable by an issuing authority but it

takes time and effort.

Today, credentials have moved to digital. Even so, there are ways to game the system and to fake credentials. So what better solutions exist?

The international standards body W3C currently has a working group for verifiable digital credentials. The solution involves applying existing standards for cryptography to secure the communication and the use of blockchain/DLT to ensure authenticity.

Dr Manreet Nijjar, CEO and founder of Truu.ID tells us, "UK junior doctors today waste over 50,000 days each year sorting their identity paperwork which equates to over half a million patient encounters a year. By using new digital verifiable credentials

doctors will be able to refocus that time on patient care, saving millions for the NHS whilst also giving doctors much more control over their data."

Just as we have 3 primary networks for credit card transactions today (Visa, MasterCard, AmericanExpress) there will be a number of globally accepted credential networks allowing for consumers, businesses - and even IoT devices to present credentials and have them instantly verified. A crucial element of the solution is data stored on a blockchain.

Get in touch with us info@blockchainrookies.com / [Twitter @getblockchain](https://twitter.com/getblockchain)

CRYPTOCOMPARE MARKET VIEW

Bitcoin Plunges Amid Market Meltdown

This week the price of Bitcoin appeared to be recovering, moving from \$8,600 to \$9,100, before Russia refused a request from Saudi Arabia to cut its output in response to the coronavirus outbreak. The refusal sparked a price war that saw crude oil futures plummet over 30% at the open - the biggest one-day drop since the Gulf War - and saw investors retreat to safe havens.

Bitcoin subsequently dropped by more than 10% in only 24 hours to trade at \$7,900, with other cryptocurrencies faring even worse. Leading altcoin Ethereum (ETH) plunged nearly 19% from a weekly high of \$247, to trade at the time of writing at \$201, with most top cryptoassets also seeing double-digit losses.

Despite the sell-off, BTC miners are still betting on the cryptocurrency, as this week the amount of computational power used to mint new bitcoin hit a new all-time high. The rise has been attributed to an upcoming event in May, in which mining

rewards will be cut in half. Previous Bitcoin "halvings" have generally been accompanied by significant surges in price.

In what has been deemed a victory for the cryptocurrency space last week, the Supreme Court of India has sided with petitions from industry players challenging a banking ban imposed by the central bank, the Reserve Bank of India, in April 2018. The ban barred commercial banks from servicing cryptocurrency-related businesses in India, and was lifted after being deemed unconstitutional.

Last week news emerged suggesting Facebook's Libra will be moving in a new direction. Sources close to Facebook and the Libra Association hinted that the Libra network could add support for tokens pegged to government-issued currencies like the euro and the pound launched by their respective central banks. The Libra cryptocurrency, sources said, will still be launched.

