

## *News Release*

### **NRI to Launch Second Phase of Proof-of-Concept for Blockchain Technology in the Securities Industry**

- *NRI's PoC to be done in collaboration with Japan Exchange Group, with additional support from Nomura Securities, SBI Securities, Mitsubishi UFJ Financial Group and more*

**TOKYO, April 7, 2016** – Nomura Research Institute (NRI), a leading provider of consulting services and system solutions, today announced the launch of the second phase of its Proof-of-Concept (PoC) to examine the applicability of blockchain technology for securities markets. This project will be done in collaboration with Asia's leading exchange group, Japan Exchange Group, Inc. (JPX).

Through this partnership, NRI and JPX will assess the usability as well as the challenges of blockchain technology when applied to securities markets. Along with JPX, the PoC will be supported by Nomura Securities, SBI Securities, Mitsubishi UFJ Financial Group and others, to ensure the study is explored from various perspectives. The PoC will mainly examine business scenarios and validation items, and prepare prototype systems based on those scenarios. Currency Port Limited will also join the PoC to contribute its blockchain technology.

This project is a continuance of NRI's previous effort to promote open innovation in October, 2015 when it established its first PoC on blockchain with Nomura Securities. The study focused on two main characteristics of blockchain - the ability to decentralize information, and the ability to resist data tampering when managing stockholders' accounts. The results of the study have proven that blockchain technology allows anti-tampering stock information management and gets rid of the need for reconciliation between stockholders.

“NRI is thrilled to work with JPX and our partners in identifying the potential of blockchain across the securities industry,” said Minoru Yokote, Senior Managing Director of NRI. “As the industry increasingly looks towards what blockchain can provide to enhance operations and technology, we are focused on determining all the challenges and potential benefits of blockchain for future applications across the securities industry.”

The second phase of the blockchain PoC is scheduled to run from April to the end of June 2016.

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#### ABOUT NRI

Nomura Research Institute, Ltd. (headquartered in Tokyo, Chairman and President & CEO, Member of the Board: Shingo Konomoto) is an independent, global IT solutions and consulting services provider with annual sales of 405.9 billion yen as of FY ended March 2015. Leveraging NRI's global consulting business, NRI is able to provide innovative IT solutions for investment banks, asset managers, banks, insurance providers, retailers and distributors. For more information please visit [www.nri.com](http://www.nri.com).

#### ABOUT JPX

Japan Exchange Group, Inc. (JPX) is Asia's leading global exchange group and offers an integrated infrastructure that enhances the appeal and functionality of the Japanese securities market. The cash equity markets run by Tokyo Stock Exchange, Inc. (TSE) host over 3,400 companies and boast the world's third largest market capitalization of USD 4.8 trillion as of December 2015. Derivatives markets at Osaka Exchange, Inc. (OSE) offer, among others, highly liquid Nikkei 225 futures, TOPIX futures, JPX-Nikkei 400 futures, and benchmark JGB derivatives. JPX provides clearing services through Japan Securities Clearing Corporation (JSCC) and self-regulation through a dedicated organization, Japan Exchange Regulation (JPX-R).

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