



Blockchain Connect

# BLOCKSTARS

Speaker & Influencer Bios

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June 4<sup>th</sup> 2020

# Here Comes the Summer!

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Welcome to Blockchain Connect – our second instalment of roundtables, panels and discussions exploring Blockchain, Digital Currencies and how these technologies are transforming industry.

These are difficult times, locked down, downturn, crisis. Our thoughts are with all of our community as we work through these unprecedented events. We've put together a summer edition to inform, inspire and stay connected.

Our program is organised in three sessions to meet the 'Blockstars' – the industry leaders, innovators and commentators forging our digital futures. With live demonstrations, use cases and a live 'digital hangout' to meet the experts, ask questions and share ideas. All online, and all free.

- ✓ Join us digitally! Register for any of the three sessions throughout the afternoon
- ✓ Want to meet up? Each session will have its own digital hangout where you can meet the panel and other attendees
- ✓ Need something specific? No stress – let us know and we'll pair you with an expert 1:1 session, just for you



16:00 - 16:40 | In Action: Bitt

## JEREMY BOLES - Blockchain Lead, ditto

Jeremy is passionate about helping startups grow. He is the ditto Blockchain Practice Lead, growing our presence and value add in blockchain communities, and Account Manager for LAB577 managing their market and lead generation activities. Before joining Ditto Jeremy worked for Enterprise Ireland and Microsoft and has been involved with startups for several years. Jeremy also likes to combine his interests in travel and culture with entrepreneurship by hosting the podcast Jez Says International Entrepreneurship Podcast.

**16:00 - 16:40 | In Action: Bitt****OLIVER GALE - Founder, Bitt**

Oliver Gale is a serial fintech and blockchain entrepreneur. He founded Bitt in 2013 with the vision of empowering people and promoting social inclusion by creating better payment systems. Prior to founding Bitt, Oliver was co-founder of Stone Digital, a digital merchant bank based in New York. He is currently founder and chief executive officer of PayMachine, a credit lending platform focused on making affordable credit available to the underserved using technology.

**15:00 - 15:40 | Meet The Author: Haydn Jones****HAYDN JONES - Founder & Director of Blockchain Hub**

Haydn Jones is the Founder and Managing Director of Blockchain Hub. He has over twenty years' commercial, operational and transformation experience working for retail and investment banks, a central bank, a regulator, a global management consultancy firm and a Japanese technology company. He has run cash management and funding units, as well as foreign exchange and equities settlement teams, alongside leading projects to re-engineer the underlying platforms. He has worked in architecturally complex, data rich environments, grappling with the challenge of reconciling legacy and leading edge technologies across client-sensitive platforms demanding high levels of availability.

**16:00 - 16:40 | In Action: Bitt**

## **GENELLE LAKE - Security Analyst, East Caribbean Central Bank**

Genelle Lake is an Information Security Analyst in the Information Security and Risk Management Unit at the Eastern Caribbean Central Bank. Genelle's responsibilities as a member of this team involve planning, implementing and monitoring information security measures to maintain and improve the Bank's information security posture, managing the lifecycle of technology risk, ensuring adherence to technology controls and reporting on all aspects of Information Security matters. Genelle is part of the project team for the ECCB Digital EC Currency Pilot (DXCD). Genelle is proud to contribute to the intellectual effort involved in making DXCDCaribe a reality in the ECCU. Genelle holds a BSc in Computer Science from Florida Memorial University and a MSc in Information Systems Management from Carnegie Mellon University. Genelle is also a Certified Information Systems Security Professional (CISSP) and has also earned various other Information Security related certifications.

**14:00 - 14:40 | Meet The Team - R3**

## **YVES G.A. MESSY - Blockchain Architect Capital Markets, R3**

Yves Guillaume Messy is a Blockchain Architect & Engineer at R3, a leading Distributed Ledger Technology platform. He architects and develops blockchain-based capital markets infrastructure, crossborder payments, and insurance solutions in Europe, the Middle East, and Africa (EMEA). Prior to that, Yves Guillaume conducted various advanced research and development programs that aimed to apply Artificial Intelligence and Distributed Ledger Technology to improve the political risk insurance underwriting process.

**16:00 - 16:40 | In Action: Bitt****BRIAN POPELKA - CEO, Bitt**

Brian previously served as senior vice president of supplier, customer and people care at Overstock. He was responsible for the strategic direction and operational effectiveness of Overstock's award-winning customer care department. Under his direction, the department repeatedly ranked in the top four of the former NRF Foundation/American Express Customer Choice Awards, and earned the Gartner Gold Award and the 2011 Stevie Award for the Retail Customer Service Department of the Year. Brian was also responsible for all relations with the company's drop-ship fulfillment partners. Brian held several positions after joining Overstock in 2002, including business to business manager, director of the books, media, movies and games department, and vice president of customer care. In these roles, Popelka contributed greatly to the success of Overstock, helping to set the tone of the company's culture while at the same time spearheading development of a media channel, travel site, and auto sales site.

**15:00 - 15:40 | Meet The Author: Haydn Jones****ANDREW REID - Strategic Advisor, Delega**

Highly experienced, well networked senior transactor and Head of Sales/Business leader & cross-country Team head/Chief Revenue Officer with extensive Banking, Digital and Corporate Experience including over 20 years working within the Financial Services Industry across EMEA and in the US driving and leading complex solution sales/transactions and business lines. Skilled in Go-To-Market Strategy including commercialisation & Internationalisation execution. Successful delivery in Bank and Enterprise Sales, B2B and B2B2C Sales and in delivering Corporate Banking, Technology, Payments, Treasury Platform, FX, Liquidity Management, Fraud & Anti-Money Laundering and AI/ML based digital solutions.

**14:00 - 14:40 | Meet the Team - R3****DAVID VATCHEV - Venture Development Lead, EMEA, R3**

David is Venture Development EMEA Lead for R3, helping startups build, grow and scale. The R3 Venture Development team helps blockchain startups with guidance, similar to an accelerator program, like practical advice, network connections and introductions, mentoring, fundraising approach suggestions, and resource allocation counsel. David is actively involved across all parts of the start-up ecosystem. Prior to joining R3, David has over 15 years of experience in capital markets, asset management, financing, and Family Office advisory. He also previously co-founded Newmont Capital Partners.

**14:00 - 14:40 | Meet the Team - R3****MIKE WILSON - CEO & Founder, ditto**

Dublin born Mike has spent a 30+ year career working at the sharp end of finance, technology and media globally, based in Asia, the US and Europe – with Arbat/Winter Partners, UBS, Bankers Trust and Deutsche Bank. CEO & Founder of ditto since 2008 – an award-winning marketing, communication and business strategy practice dedicated to FinTech. Working across the business lifecycle – from start-up strategy, investment roadshows and post-funding “go-to-market” activation – through to producing multi-million/multi-region product launches and campaigns for FTSE 100/Fortune 100 firms. Helped bring to market firms such as BMLL, Cobalt, Form3, Illuminate Financial, Privitar and Thomson Reuters Elektron.

# Meet The Firms.

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Bitt is a Financial Technology company that utilizes blockchain and distributed ledger technology to facilitate secure peer-to-peer transactions with seamless mobile money across a suite of Bitt's Software and Mobile Applications. Their mission is to create payments systems for citizens, merchants, banking institutions and central banks that promote social inclusion, financial empowerment and economic growth for this and future generations.



The Eastern Caribbean Central Bank (ECCB) was established in October 1983. It is the Monetary Authority for a group of eight island economies namely - Anguilla, Antigua and Barbuda, Commonwealth of Dominica, Grenada, Montserrat, St Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, and St Vincent and the Grenadines. The Agreement establishing the ECCB as the monetary authority for the eight ECCB participating governments, was signed on 5 July 1983 in Trinidad and Tobago. The ECCB was officially commissioned on 1 October 1983, replacing the Eastern Caribbean Currency Authority (ECCA) which was established in March 1965. The primary objective of the ECCB is to maintain the stability of the Eastern Caribbean Currency and the integrity of the banking system.



R3 is an enterprise blockchain software firm working with a broad ecosystem of more than 300 members and partners across multiple industries from both the private and public sectors to develop on Corda, its open-source blockchain platform, and Corda Enterprise, a commercial version of Corda for enterprise usage. R3's global team of over 220 professionals in 14 countries is supported by over 2,000 technology, financial, and legal experts drawn from its global member base. The Corda platform is already being used in industries from financial services to healthcare, shipping, insurance, and more.

## *The Executive Guide* **TO BLOCKCHAIN**

The Executive Guide to Blockchain Keeping up with fast evolving technology is a challenge that every business leader faces. As organisations start to wake up to the Fourth Industrial Revolution, it's becoming more important than ever to be able to utilise and exploit new digital platforms. With the simple aim of demystifying blockchain for business leaders, The Executive Guide to Blockchain offers a jargon-free explanation and framework to better understand blockchain technologies and their impact on organizations.