PRESS RELEASE

Ignite launches $150M-backed accelerator program for innovative Web 3 projects

Supported by eleven major investment partners, Ignite Accelerator is a robust platform to help developers speed up time to market of their projects.

Las Vegas (NV) and Berlin (Germany), 12 April, 2022: Today, Ignite (formerly Tendermint), the leading developer of innovative tools for Web 3, announces the launch of Ignite Accelerator. The initiative will support and expand the next wave of revolutionary early-stage startups in Web 3. Ignite Accelerator will focus on the multichain ecosystem, involving eleven leading investment partners, with a total initial fund of $150M.

The initial group of strategic partners are Alameda Research, Kucoin Ventures, OKX Blockdream Ventures, Hashkey Capital, Chorus One, Figment, Chainlayer, Strangelove Ventures, Forbole, Everstake and Galileo. Alongside capital investment, they will also provide practical guidance to the program's participants, leveraging their expertise in accompanying Web 3 projects.

Ignite Accelerator is aimed to provide support for early-stage projects that have already initiated development, and speed up their time to market. There is currently a major gap for new interoperability projects to gain technical and business expertise, resulting in a slower time to market and up to several years of stagnated growth. This critical barrier to progress limits the potential of promising projects that can make a major impact in solving real-world challenges.

Peng Zhong, CEO of Ignite asserts, “There have been astounding ideas in the development of decentralized solutions, much to the benefit of the wider community, leading us to rethink what innovation is. We are focused on driving accessibility in this space and empowering developers to achieve more. Ignite Accelerator ensures that individuals who would like to be part of building an open and decentralized global future are set up for success. This is an integral and necessary step for us as leaders who are accelerating the world’s transition to a more transparent and equitable future.”

Sane Lebrun, Chief Growth Officer of Ignite states, “We are proud to establish a key driver of strategic growth to the Web 3 ecosystem at large, alongside exceptional like-minded partners. As best-in-class investors, they share our vision and hold valuable experience in partnering closely with entrepreneurs and developers. We have a strong track record in incubating ambitious blockchain projects so our accelerator program is an essential extension, allowing us to scale our efforts in fostering innovation in the blockchain industry.”

With Ignite Accelerator, participants can benefit from capital and expert resources including hands-on guidance in key areas like blockchain development, marketing, PR and tokenomics, to accelerate their development cycle and maximize their success at launch.
PRESS RELEASE
The program will support up to 20 projects a year, with two cohorts annually. Each cohort participation will run for six months and be focused on helping participating projects reach successful mainnet launch within 12 months.

Applications to Ignite Accelerator are now open for the first cohort targeted to commence in June 2022. Interested applicants are invited to view the eligibility criteria and other details here: ignite.com/accelerator.

This new initiative is the third pillar of Ignite’s offering for blockchain developers. Alongside the existing pillars of Ignite Ventures (formerly Tendermint Ventures), launched a year ago, and Ignite CLI (formerly Starport), a feature-packed solution for developers to easily build interoperable and sovereign blockchains, Ignite establishes itself as the industry leader with the most comprehensive innovation platform for blockchain developers.

-END-

About Ignite
Ignite is leading the way in accelerating the world’s transition to a decentralized future. Our solutions are developed for individuals, organizations, and global communities to easily build innovative ideas and use decentralized services in their everyday lives. Formerly Tendermint, Ignite holds the legacy as founders of Cosmos, the world’s largest cross-chain ecosystem. Together with Ignite, everyone can create meaningful impact for a more transparent and equitable world. For more information, visit ignite.com

Images available here.

Media Contact
Candice Teo
Director of External Relations at Ignite
media@tendermint.com

Ignite Accelerator Contact
David Felkai
Head of Business Development at Ignite
business@tendermint.com
PRESS RELEASE

Information on Ignite Accelerator investment partners

Alameda Research
Alameda Research is a leading principal trading firm. We use internally developed technology and our team's deep crypto expertise to trade thousands of digital asset products: all major coins and altcoins, as well as their derivatives. Since 2017, we have relentlessly built a globally focused team and infrastructure with the ability to trade on all major exchanges and markets.

Kucoin Ventures
KuCoin Ventures is a leading investment arm of KuCoin Exchange that aims to invest in the most disruptive cryptocurrency and blockchain projects in Web3.0 era.

OKX Blockdream Ventures
OKX is an innovative cryptocurrency exchange with advanced financial services. We rely on blockchain technology to provide everything you need for wise trading and investment. OKX adopts blockchain to build the next-gen financial ecosystem. We strive to eliminate financial barriers, evolve the global economy, and change the world for better. We never stop to innovate and improve our user experience to make cryptocurrency trading and investing available for everyone.

Hashkey Capital
HashKey Capital is an institutional asset manager investing exclusively in blockchain technology and digital assets. The principals of HashKey Capital have been involved in investing and building blockchain companies since 2015. This vision and commitment ensure that we stand at the very centre of the blockchain ecosystem in Asia and globally.

Chorus One
Chorus One is a leading staking provider securing billions of dollars of assets and facilitating interoperability between decentralized networks. We are a community of ambitious, self-reflective people building core infrastructure for blockchain protocols. We believe cryptoeconomics and decentralized networks will enable peer-to-peer collaboration at scale and propel the next stage of human evolution. The technology we build is replacing inefficient legacy structures based on coercion with an emerging open financial system facilitating efficiency and permissionless innovation.

Figment
Serving customers worldwide, Figment is one of the world's largest blockchain infrastructure and services provider. At Figment, our mission is to support the adoption, growth and long term success of the Web 3 ecosystem. This is Figment's unique approach: we make it simple to build on the next generation of blockchain technology. We provide enterprise grade node and staking infrastructure, the Hubble Web 3 explorer, and developer tools while also actively participating in community & governance.
PRESS RELEASE

Chainlayer
Chainlayer operates some of the most successful proof of stake networks in the world. We maintain the highest possible validation standards to achieve healthy consensus, fast, secure, and accurate oracle data. At ChainLayer, we use a Zero Trust strategy - Never Trust, Always Verify. This strategy ensures that we can offer our services with the confidentiality, availability, and integrity required.

We firmly believe that blockchain is the financial technology of the future. As early investors of emerging fintech, we currently support various projects that globally deliver sustainable, disruptive, and future-proof technology. As investors and contributors, we are looking for projects with the potential for global adoption and the ability to execute.

Strangelove Ventures
The world of DeFi is no place for passive partnership. Strangelove invests more than just capital, we offer partners the veteran experience and broad exposure of our renown team, along with a specialized leadership EQ that's sorely missing in the crypto space. Our unique investment model, coupled with our expertise in branding, user experience, product design, and development, gives us the ability to go beyond simply backing our partners and ensuring that they succeed.

Forbole
Founded in Hong Kong in 2017, Forbole is a pioneer in building blockchain solutions with a strong focus on user experience. Our goal is to make blockchain space more accessible to more people. We provide enterprise grade staking services for over 20 blockchain networks and crypto asset management tools for more than 10 cryptocurrencies; we actively participate in communities and governance; we also build a sovereign blockchain for social network applications to encourage mass adoption of cryptos and blockchain technologies.

Everstake
Everstake is the biggest decentralized staking provider in the blockchain industry, trusted by 625,000 users. We have used enterprise-level hardware to run nodes for the most popular PoS blockchains since 2018. Everstake is a team of experienced developers, financial experts and blockchain enthusiasts. We run highly secure and reliable nodes for PoS protocols using the enterprise-level hardware to ensure maximum efficiency and security.

Galileo
Galileo is an early-stage crypto venture firm focused on expanding the Cosmos and Inter-Blockchain Communication protocol (IBC) universe by supporting founders with patient capital and resources needed to realize their vision.