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# BLOCKCHAIN 4THTECH E-DELIVERY CROSS-PLATFORM CLIENT AND ENTERPRISE ACCESS POINT DEVELOPMENT PROPOSAL

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Abstract--We propose a blockchain electronic data and document exchange cross-platform client, that will provide electronic data and document exchange with document notarisation and digital identity mechanism between users in a reliable, safe and trusted way. Additionally, we aim to develop Access Point (i.e. AP) to leverage trust and direct blockchain connectivity. The proposed 4thtech cross-platform client is an upgrade to the existing blockchain electronic data and document exchange protocol (i.e. FOURdx), that is currently accessible and operational online. Blockchain eDelivery has significant security advantages, comparing to traditional eDelivery. It is based on a distributed model where electronic data and documents exchange process runs between blockchain wallets, where private and public cryptographic keys are used for transaction authentication. Existing 4thtech MVP (i.e. minimum viable product) is capable of; (1) connecting senders and receivers by executing electronic data and document exchange; (2) performing eDelivery based on the current EU guidelines, and; (3) archiving securely encrypted data. After two years of MVP testing, the technical feasibility and its practical potential have been proven, with that, the blockchain cross-platform eDelivery client development is the next logical step.

Keywords— blockchain, eDelivery, protocol, client, 4thpillar technologies, 4thtech, hashnet, sichain, digital transformation, digital identity, DLT, ethereum

#### 1. BACKGROUND AND RATIONALE

Exchanging sensitive electronic data, documents or merely digital assets should be as easy as exchanging information. Due to its immutability blockchain technology proposes the ideal foundation to simplify digital value-holding file and documents exchange. To address this issue in 2017, 4thpillar technologies (i.e. 4thtech), proposed and later developed a safe, fast solution, which leverages trust provided by the blockchain and provides secure, immutable, instant crossborder electronic data and document exchange. To provide an option for blockchain address ownership verification, the digital identity mechanism was later constructed in 2019, which can authenticate verified connection between a blockchain wallet and a person. Document

notarisation is also an essential part of the 4thtech ecosystem and provides unique digital data or document timestamp and authenticity verification.

The electronic data and document exchange protocol has been validated with a working prototype, tested on early adopters and recognised as blockchain development suited for European Union needs.

In May 2018 Adriatic council awarded Dr. Tali Rezun with the Beyond 4.0 award for his dedication, promotion and accomplishment in the field of science, new technologies and innovation for the 4THPILLAR Blockchain platform. (Adriatic Council | BEYOND 4.0 – LJUBLJANA, 25.05.2018. KRISTALNA PALAČA (BTC), n.d.)

After two years of the protocol MVP testing, the technical feasibility and its practical potential have been proven, with that PoC (i.e. proof of concept) was confirmed. As the European Union is embracing the benefits of blockchain technology, now is the time for furthered development of the blockchain eDelivery. We propose the development of the blockchain electronic data and document exchange protocol cross-platform (i.e. Windows, Mac OS, Linux, Android, iOS) desktop and mobile client.

#### 1.1 OBJECTIVE

The objective of this proposal is to develop and deploy cross-platform (Windows, macOS, Linux, Android and iOS) 4thtech client with a unique Access Point, that will leverage blockchain for electronic data and documents exchange in a reliable, safe, trusted way. Also, the blockchain 4thtech client will be deployed and integrated on Slovenian National Blockchain Test Infrastructure (i.e. SI-Chain), providing a testing framework for future blockchain electronic data and document action exchange. This will support development of blockchain electronic data and document exchange, more specifically it will help build the foundations for safe, reliable crossborder digital eDelivery services between both public and private sectors, as well as between such entities and citizens and organizations.

# 1.2. SCOPE

The proposed project scope is divided into 9 activities converging to achieve the project objective of development and deployment of; (1) smart contract; (2) JSON metadata schema; (3) electronic data and documents repository with notarisation function; (4) RSA public key repository upgrade; (5) blockchain wallet identity mechanism; (6) desktop cross-platform 4thtech client; (7) mobile cross-platform 4thtech client; (8) blockchain Access Point, and; (9) SI-Chain integration.

# 1.3. NATIONAL BLOCKCHAIN INFRASTRUCTURE DEPLOYMENT

The proposed action also results in development and deployment of blockchain cross-platform 4thtech client on Slovenian National Blockchain Test Infrastructure (i.e. SI-Chain, first EU crossborder blockchain infrastructure), providing a testing framework for future safe, reliable crossborder digital eDelivery services between both public and private sectors, as well as between such entities and citizens and organizations. Main private partner, a telecommunication company Telemach will ensure cross-border infrastructure and the needed publicity (Slovenia launches national test blockchain infrastructure and Slovenian *Blockchain partnership* | *GOV.SI*, n.d.). The project with its use cases will be promoted on a national, EU events and conferences in collaboration with European blockchain partnership and also within the UNECE Chain project (UNECE Chain project, n.d.)

# 1.4. PROJECT VALUE

Main project value derived from; (1) establishment of blockchain electronic data and documents exchange testing framework, what can lead to digital transformation and further enable digital trust, and; (2) the development contribution to the current and future DLT research, as there is a lack of distributed application use cases on the market.

# 1.5. BUILDING ON PRE-EXISTING WORK

Blockchain eDelivery has significant advantages, comparing to traditional eDelivery. It is based on a distributed model where the electronic data and documents exchange process runs between blockchain wallets, where private and public cryptographic keys are used for transaction authentication. Existing 4thtech protocol is capable of; (1) connecting senders and receivers by executing electronic data and documents performing eDelivery exchange; (2) notarisation based on the current EU guidelines; (3) archiving securely encrypted data, and (4) following the GDPR guidelines. The innovation reveals from the fact, that the protocol does not store the transmitted electronic data and documents on the blockchain. The electronic data and documents are stored off-chain. The protocol records links to encrypted files and hashes of the encrypted content on the blockchain. This safeguards the rights of individuals to confidentiality and privacy. Designed and built completely by the *4thpillar technologies*, the protocol is fully operational, ready for testing and provides the core technology solutions for further development of the proposed *blockchain 4thtech cross-platform client*.

#### 2. THE STORY BEHIND THE 4THTECH BRAND

According to many, there are three fundamental technology developments in human history; (1) the invention of electricity; (2) the invention of the microprocessor, and; (3) the invention of the internet. We are certain, that the invention of blockchain technology is the fourth fundamental technology pillar, which revolutionary applications will yet to be revealed to the world.

### 3. TECHNOLOGY EXPLAINERS

Due to complexity of industry terminology, we have prepared technology and terms explainers for terms; (1) blockchain; (2) eDelivery; (3) blockchain eDelivery; (4) blockchain document notarisation; (5) hash checksum algorithm; (6) blockchain wallet; (7) hardware wallet (8) RSA and AES encryption; (9) SHA 256, and; (10) X.509 certificate standard.

# 3.1. BLOCKCHAIN

Blockchain provides a decentralized and immutable shared digital ledger, which gives participating parties a way of validating information related to a transaction. In doing so, it speeds up the process and cuts out intermediaries and costs. Blockchain is made from a trail of validated facts. These facts can be anything from money to information. As part of this digital system of record-keeping, each transaction and its details are validated and then recorded across a network of computers. Everyone who has access to

the distributed ledger receives this information and the parties agree on the accuracy before the block is replicated, shared and synchronized among the entities. A Blockchain is virtually impossible to tamper with since each block of information references the block before it. In an age when trust is both elusive and held at a high premium, Blockchain presents a way to confirm, validate and authenticate both values and events. (*4THPILLAR TECHNOLOGIES Project White Paper*, n.d.)

#### 3.2. E-DELIVERY

According to *Connecting Europe: CEF eDelivery supports trans-European multilingualism*, n.d., eDelivery is a network of nodes for digital communications. It is based on a distributed model where every participant becomes a node using standard transport protocols and security policies. eDelivery helps public administrations to exchange electronic data and documents with other public administrations, businesses, and citizens, in an interoperable, secure, reliable and trusted way. It is one of the building blocks of the Connecting Europe Facility. These building blocks are reusable specifications, software, and services that will form part of a wide variety of IT systems in different policy domains of the European Union.

### 3.3. BLOCKCHAIN E-DELIVERY

According to 4THPILLAR TECHNOLOGIES Project White Paper, n.d., blockchain eDelivery is a network of nodes for digital communications and document or files exchange. It is based on a decentralised model where files exchange process runs between blockchain wallets. Private and public cryptographic keys are used for transaction authentication. Blockchain eDelivery significant security advantages, comparing to traditional eDelivery. Blockchain electronic data and documents exchange (i.e. FOURdx) is a developed and tested protocol capable of; (1) connecting senders and receivers by executing electronic data and documents exchange; (2) performing eDelivery based on the current EU guidelines, and; (3) archiving securely encrypted data.

### 3.4. BLOCKCHAIN DOCUMENT NOTARISATION

4thtech notarisation service is able to leverage the power of blockchain and facilitate source and time confirmation for digital data and documents. The notarisation function will be soon available for testing as a part of the blockchain 4thtech protocol with main functions; (1) store and timestamp a digital data or document; (2) verify the digital data or document authenticity, and; (3) access and review the notarisation details.

#### 3.5. CHECKSUM HASH ALGORITHM

As explained by What Is a Checksum (and Why Should You Care)?, n.d., if you know the checksum (i.e. hash) of the original file, you can run a checksum or hashing utility on it. If the resulting checksum matches, you know the file you have is identical. Identical content of electronic data and documents produces identical hash. If only one symbol in the electronic data or documents is changed, the hash of the changed file is completely different. In the case of blockchain eDelivery protocol (i.e. FOURdx), this unique hash functionality enables the authenticity verification of the send electronic data and documents. It provides a way to scan for corrupted or virusinfected electronic data or documents, during digital data exchange. Most importantly, the sender cannot later claim to have sent a different electronic data or documents, as this can be proven using a smart contract by recalculating the hash and comparing it with the data on the blockchain.

# 3.6. BLOCKCHAIN WALLET

According to *Cryptocurrency wallet - Wikipedia*, n.d., a cryptocurrency wallet is a device, program or service which stores the public and/or private keys and can be used to track ownership, receive or spend cryptocurrencies. As all cryptocurrencies run on blockchains, cryptocurrency wallet can be referred also as blockchain wallets. Up to now, blockchain wallet was mostly used for cryptocurrency asset holding and exchange. The *4thtech add-on* is a Google Chrome extension wallet, that allows you to visit the distributed web of tomorrow in your browser today. It is one of the

Athpillar technologies main innovations, a first system on the market capable of handling not only digital assets but also other assets such as links to encrypted electronic data and documents. Designed and build from the ground-up, the Athtech add-on is fully operational and, also offers a secure identity vault, providing a user interface to manage digital identities and sign blockchain eDelivery transactions. Athtech add-on can be comparable to a bank account, as it contains a pair of public and private cryptographic keys. A public key allows for other wallets to execute eDelivery to the desired wallet's address, whereas a private key enables the decryption of electronic data and documents from that address.

#### 3.7. HARDWARE WALLET

Hardware wallet provides additional security and private key backup. According to Hardware Wallets Explained - Mycryptopedia, n.d., a hardware wallet is a physical electronic device that is designed to protect an individual's crypto assets by securing their private keys. The idea behind hardware wallets is to isolate the private keys from online methods of storage, such as a computer or smartphone, which are more susceptible to being compromised by a hacker. Storing your private keys offline prevents against this, as hackers would have to physically steal your hardware wallet to gain access to a user's private keys. 4thpillar technologies have partnered with HI-WISE project, an advanced plug&play hardware wallet with futuristic uni-body design. Unique to the market, the HI-WISE has no openings and buttons, just a HI definition LCD and it is powered by Qi charging technology. Accompanied by unique mobile multiwallet with unparalleled safety features and integrated anti-spying algorithms. Hardware Wallet option will be supported in future crossplatform desktop client updates.

# 3.8. RSA AND AES ENCRYPTION

According to *RSA* (*cryptosystem*) - *Wikipedia*, n.d., RSA is one of the first public-key cryptosystems and is widely used for secure data transmission. In such a cryptosystem, the encryption key is public and distinct from the decryption key which is kept

secret (private). In RSA, this asymmetry is based on the practical difficulty of factoring the product of two large prime numbers, the "factoring problem". *Blockchain eDelivery protocol* (i.e. FOURdx) uses the advanced encryption standard (i.e. AES), with a combination of RSA encryption algorithms. The electronic data and documents are encrypted with a symmetric algorithm (i.e. AES), as the asymmetric algorithm (i.e. RSA) is used to encrypt symmetric key and initialization vector (i.e. IV) with the public key of the receiver. This design does not allow an attacker to infer relationships between segments of the encrypted message.

# 3.9. SECURE HASH ALGORITHM 256 [SHA 256]

According to What is Secure Hash Algorithm 256? Get the definition here., n.d., Secure Hash Algorithm 256 or SHA 256 is defined as one of the most secure ways to protect digital information. SHA 256 is a mathematical process that generates a 256 bit (64 characters long) random sequence of letters and numbers (hash) out of any input. The same author points out, that a hash is as a mathematical computer process that takes information and turns it into letters and numbers of a certain length. Hashing is used to make storing and finding information quicker because hashes are usually shorter and easier to find. Hashes also make information unreadable and so the original data can become confidential.

### 3.10. DIGITAL CERTIFICATE X.509 STANDARD

Digital certificate standard X.509 Public Key Infrastructure can be used for data encryption, notarization of signed data, digital signature, digital identity verification and timestamp. With various European Union certificate publications, the X.509 standard is widely used and as such appropriate for blockchain digital identity integration. The X509 Public Key Infrastructure is approved by eIDAS (i.e. electronic IDentification, Authentication and Trust Services).

# 4. BLOCKCHAIN 4THTECH CROSS-PLATFORM CLIENT

Based on 4thtech MVP, 4thtech plans the furthered development of *blockchain electronic data and documents exchange cross-platform* (i.e. Windows, Mac OS, Linux, Android, iOS), *desktop and mobile client*, with the following modules; (1) smart contract; (2) JSON metadata schema; (3) electronic data and documents repository with notarisation function; (4) RSA public key repository; (5) blockchain wallet identity mechanism; (6) cross-platform 4thtech desktop client, and; (7) mobile cross-platform 4thtech client.

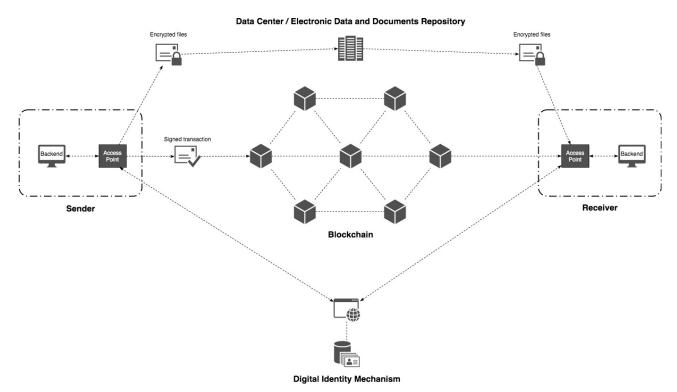


Diagram 1. Blockchain 4thtech cross-platform client ecosystem

#### 4.1. SMART CONTRACTS

*Introduction--* A smart contract is a computer protocol intended to digitally facilitate, verify, or enforce the negotiation or performance of a contract. Smart contracts allow the performance of credible transactions without third parties. These transactions are trackable and irreversible. (*Smart contract - Wikipedia*, n.d.)

**Current Solution--** Smart contacts are currently used to exchange and manage specific transactions; (1) sender wallet address; (2) sender name and description; (3) document or file type; (4) document or file link, and; (5) document delivery data.

**Proposed Solution--** The new upgradeable smart contract will have to be developed, that could record and manage the following; (1) sender wallet address; (2) metadata link; (3) metadata hash (i.e. SHA-256); (4) document delivery data, and; (5) smart contract upgrade. As blockchains are in nature immutable, proper innovation and techniques will have to be used to achieve this action.

**Development Plan--** We propose the following smart contract development plan; (1)

development specification; (2) smart contract programming; (3) testing, and (4) smart contract chain deployment.

**Solution Design--** The smart contract is written in Solidity using Ganache. Ganache is a personal blockchain for Ethereum development you can use to deploy contracts, develop your applications, and run tests.

# 4.2. JSON METADATA SCHEMA

Introduction-- JSON stands for "JavaScript Object Notation", a simple data interchange format. It began as a notation for the worldwide web. Since JavaScript exists in most web browsers, and JSON is based on JavaScript, it's very easy to support there. However, it has proven useful enough and simple enough that it is now used in many other contexts that don't involve web surfing. JSON Schema itself is written in JSON. It is data itself, not a computer program. It's just a declarative format for "describing the structure of other data". This is both its strength and its weakness (which it shares with other similar schema languages). It is easy to concisely describe the surface structure of data and automate validating data against it.

However, since a JSON Schema can't contain arbitrary code, there are certain constraints on the relationships between data elements that can't be expressed. Any "validation tool" for a sufficiently complex data format, therefore, will likely have two phases of validation: one at the schema (or structural) level, and one at the semantic level. (What is a schema? — Understanding JSON Schema 7.0 documentation, n.d.)

**Proposed Solution--** We propose the following JSON file data structure development, that includes; (1) sender title; (2) subject; (3) content; (4) link to the document or file (i.e. a link to an encrypted ZIP file), and; (5) calculated hash file value.

**Development Plan--** We propose the following JSON file data structure development plan; (1) development specification; (2) JSON file data structure programming; (3) deployment, and; (4) testing.

**Solution Design--** JSON schema is written in JSON format. In addition to the JSON scheme, we will prepare a simple documentation page with a validator. The page will be written in HTML, JS and CSS (SCSS).

The exact JSON metadata structure will be defined later and will update according to product updates.

# 4.3. DATA AND DOCUMENTS REPOSITORY WITH NOTARISTION FUNCTION

Introduction-- A database repository is an organized collection of data, stored and accessed electronically (4THPILLAR TECHNOLOGIES Project White Paper, n.d.). According to Data Management for Data Protection (GDPR) | CC CDQ, n.d., as the data is processed, the service should be able to delete personal data or sensitive documentation on demand and cope with various retention requirements.

**Proposed Solution**— We aim to develop a system that will offer the sender to host their encrypted sent electronic data and documents also on the data repository of *4thpillar technologies*, additionally notarisation service will be able to leverage the power of cross DLT blockchains and

facilitate source and time confirmation for digital data and documents.

**Development Plan--** We propose the following electronic data repository development plan; (1) development specification; (2) repository programming; (3) deployment, and; (4) testing.

**Solution Design--** The backend will be written in PHP with MySQL database. For a better experience on the frontend, we will use Vue JS.

# 4.4. RSA PUBLIC KEY REPOSITORY UPGRADE

Introduction -- According to RSA (cryptosystem) - Wikipedia, n.d., RSA is one of the first public-key cryptosystems and is widely used for secure data transmission. In such a cryptosystem, the encryption key is public and distinct from the decryption key which is kept secret (private). In RSA, this asymmetry is based on the practical difficulty of factoring the product of two large prime numbers, the "factoring problem".

Current Solution-- The current blockchain eDelivery protocol uses the advanced encryption standard (i.e. AES), with a combination of RSA encryption algorithms. The electronic data and documents are first encrypted with a symmetric algorithm (i.e. AES). The asymmetric algorithm (i.e. RSA) is used to encrypt random symmetric key and initialization vector (i.e. IV) with the public key of the receiver. This design does not allow an attacker to infer relationships between segments of the encrypted message. To encrypt electronic data and documents, the public RSA key of the receiver is needed. In the current blockchain eDelivery protocol, the platform solves this issue by recording the public key of every wallet in the 4thtech add-on domain.

**Proposed Solution--** At this stage, we propose an upgrade to the existing solution, by separating the of RSA public key repository and platform.

**Development Plan--** We propose the following RSA public key repository development plan; (1) development specification; (2) upgrade programing; (3) deployment, and; (4) testing.

**Solution Design--** The backend of our repository API will be written in PHP with MySQL database.

### 4.5. DIGITAL IDENTITY MECHANISM

Introduction-- There is a constant need for online identity verification, and despite the move towards digital transactions, there is still the need to use physical identity documents. According to Economic Commission for Europe Executive Committee Centre for Trade Facilitation and Electronic Business Blockchain in Trade Facilitation: Sectoral challenges and examples, 2019, blockchain holds promise in this regard and could be used to create and verify digital identities, for individuals and organizations. These identities could be based on one or more indicators, which could include, for example, employer identity confirmation, past transaction histories, biometric data and more.

Current Solution-- The current blockchain eDelivery identity mechanism (i.e. FOURid), derives as a direct result of the existing blockchain eDelivery protocol (i.e. FOURdx). It offers the establishment of blockchain-based individual digital identity and allows user wallets (i.e. including wallet address) to become verified, authenticated and seen in the vastness that is blockchain. A link is created between an individual (or organization) and their wallet, which holds the content and digital assets. Designed and build from the ground-up as a web application with web API, the current solution is fully operational and offers; (1) connecting the X.509 standard digital certificate with blockchain wallet; (2) providing the digital identity for blockchain eDelivery, and; (3) providing digital identity for blockchain Notarisation. (4THPILLAR TECHNOLOGIES Project White Paper, n.d.)

**Proposed Solution--** We propose the upgrade the existing identity mechanism, focusing at identity verification between organization and individual (e.g. the state and the citizens, schools and students, etc.), to enable the following identity verification mechanism; (1) fulfilment of the digital identity request form by the individual results in wallet creation by the eDelivery client; (2) the individual identification (i.e. KYC) is conducted using either personal identification, video call or some other already established method; (3) unique KYC verification code is issued by the organization; (4) digital identity encrypted verification data package is sent by the

organization, through the smart contract to the receiver; (5) the verification data package is received and decrypted by the individual/receiver inside the eDelivery client; (6) the identity data package is confirmed by the individual by imputing the unique KYC verification code in the system; (7) upon the system data verification, the individual identity is confirmed.

**Development Plan--** We propose the following identity mechanism development plan; (1) development specification; (2) identity mechanism programming; (3) deployment and; (4) testing.

**Solution Design--** The backend will be written in PHP with MySQL database. For a better experience on fthe rontend, we will use Vue JS.

# 4.6. ELECTRONIC DATA AND DOCUMENTS SENDING PROTOCOL

We plan to develop following electronic data and documents sending protocol; (1) metadata preparation according to valid JSON scheme; (2) encryption of metadata; (3) file upload to the data repository (i.e. a file containing metadata + ZIP file containing documents or files); (4) the calculation of the file content hash (i.e. SHA-256 algorithm is used to calculate the hash value), and; (5) the execution of blockchain transaction, via smart contract.

### 4.7. BLOCKCHAIN 4THTECH DESKTOP CLIENT

Introduction -- The proposed DSI is a blockchain eDelivery cross-platform client, an upgrade to the existing blockchain eDelivery protocol. The existing protocol is fully operational, ready for testing and provides the core technology solutions for further development of the proposed blockchain eDelivery cross-platform client.

Current Solution-- Existing blockchain eDelivery protocol is capable of; (1) connecting senders and receivers by executing electronic data and documents exchange; (2) performing eDelivery based on the current EU guidelines; (3) archiving securely encrypted data, and (4) following the GDPR guidelines. The innovation and ingenuity

reveal from the fact, that the protocol does not store the transmitted electronic data and documents on the blockchain. The electronic data and documents are stored off-chain. The protocol records links to encrypted files and hashes of the encrypted content on the blockchain. This safeguards the rights of individuals to confidentiality and privacy. Designed and built completely by the *4thpillar technologies*, the protocol is fully operational, ready for testing and provides the core technology solutions for further development of the proposed *blockchain eDelivery cross-platform client*.

Test Current Solution -- To test 4thtech solutions please follow the video tutorial link <a href="https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCcMkIrVUJoILdEpA4An0Sog">https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCcMkIrVUJoILdEpA4An0Sog</a> or download our Google Chrome add-on and follow the instructions from the product page <a href="https://the4thpillar.io/products/">https://the4thpillar.io/products/</a>

**Proposed Solution--** We plan the furthered development of blockchain eDelivery cross-platform (i.e. Windows, Mac OS, Linux), desktop client, with the following modules; (1) electronic data and documents encryption; (2) desktop wallet interface; (3) desktop wallet interface backup mechanism; (4) electronic data and documents exchange; (5) electronic data and documents repository location option; (6) transaction fee module, and; (7) account settings module.

# 4.7.1. ELECTRONIC DATA AND DOCUMENTS ENCRYPTION/DESKTOP CLIENT

Introduction-- Electronic data and documents encryption is the process by which electronic data and documents are protected with a cryptographic key (i.e. public key) so that only individuals with the corresponding decryption key (i.e. private key) can read them. (4THPILLAR TECHNOLOGIES Project White Paper, n.d.)

**Proposed Solution--** We propose to develop the following electronic data and documents encryption solution; (1) the electronic data and documents compression (i.e. zip, gzip); (2) symmetric algorithm encryption of the compressed file (i.e. AES); (3) asymmetric algorithm (i.e. RSA) encryption of the symmetric key and initialization vector (i.e. IV) with the

public key of the receiver, and; (4) the merger of asymmetrically encrypted content with symmetrically encrypted content. This design does not allow an attacker to infer relationships between segments of the encrypted message.

\*Applies also for mobile client

# 4.7.2. DESKTOP WALLET INTERFACE/DESKTOP CLIENT

**Proposed Solution--** We aim to develop the cross-platform client wallet as the main front-end user environment with features such as; (1) guided user onboarding (i.e. a collection of basic user data and password definition); (2) wallet access backup options; (a) wallet access file backup; (b) backup using biometric data (i.e. fingerprint scan and facial recognition), and; (3) private keys storage repository (i.e. private keys are stored encrypted on the user device)

\*Applies also for mobile client

# 4.7.3. DESKTOP WALLET INTERFACE BECKUP MECHANISM/DESKTOP CLIENT

Introduction— The aspect of blockchain private key security is of most importance. The private key of the must be managed and kept secure since there is no centralized management system behind it. If a user loses their private key, all assets related to that key are lost as well, unless a way to recover that key has been put in place. (Economic Commission for Europe Executive Committee Centre for Trade Facilitation and Electronic Business Blockchain in Trade Facilitation: Sectoral challenges and examples, 2019)

**Proposed Solution--** We plan to develop the private-key backup system, using biometric data (i.e. fingerprint scan and facial recognition). As biometric sensors are more evolved on mobile devices, this backup option will be included in eDelivery mobile client. The desktop and mobile client wallets will synchronize data, such as biometric keys and similar.

\*Applies also for mobile client

# 4.7.4. ELECTRONIC DATA AND DOCUMENTS EXCHANGE INTERFACE/DESKTOP CLIENT

*Introduction--* The secure blockchain electronic data and documents exchange is the main feature of the proposed *cross-platform eDelivery client*.

**Proposed Solution--** We propose the development of similar to email inbox design, but with specific features and solutions, such as; (1) electronic data and documents sending and receiving option; (2) electronic data and documents attachment option; (3) electronic data and documents metadata sending, receiving and reading capability, and; (4) electronic data and documents folder analytics. The proposed eDelivery client electronic data and documents exchange client will not store the transmitted data on the blockchain. The electronic data and documents are stored off-chain. The protocol records links to encrypted files and hashes of the encrypted content on the blockchain. This safeguards the rights of individuals to confidentiality and privacy.

\*Applies also for mobile client

# 4.7.5. ELECTRONIC DATA AND DOCUMENTS REPOSITORY LOCATION OPTION/DESKTOP CLIENT

**Proposed Solution--** We propose the system, that will provide a choice of the electronic data and documents repository location with full control on the side of the sender and the side of the receiver. We the following repository location options; (1) using the servers owned by user organisation; (2) using repository online services (i.e. Google Drive, Dropbox); (3) using *4thpillar technologies* database repository, and; (4) other.

\*Applies also for mobile client

# 4.6.6. TRANSACTION FEE/DESKTOP CLIENT

**Proposed Solution--** We propose the development of multiple transaction fees options; (1) transaction fee calculated based on a paid subscription plan (applies for private-chains); (2) transaction fee calculated based on token payment

(applies for public-chains), and; (3) other custom transaction payment option.

\*Applies also for mobile client

#### 4.7.7. ACCOUNT SETTINGS/DESKTOP CLIENT

**Proposed Solution--** We propose the development of the following user account settings; (1) dashboard with account overview; (2) backup option; (3) account analytics; (4) transaction payment options, and; (5) blockchain choice setting options.

\*Applies also for mobile client

### 4.7.8. CLIENT SETTINGS/DESKTOP CLIENT

**Proposed Solution--** We propose the development of the following client settings; (1) setting for desktop client document and files archive backup will be possible also using Google drive or similar; (2) desktop client language setting will be available, and; (3) notifications setting options will be provided.

\*Applies also for mobile client

#### 4.7.9. GENERAL SETTINGS/DESKTOP CLIENT

**Proposed Solution--** We propose the development of the following client general settings; (1) received files will be saved on the computer where the desktop client is installed, and; (2) in the case of desktop client removal, the access to the wallet needs to be restored from backup (i.e. the documents or files must be restored as well).

\*Applies also for mobile client

**Blockchain 4thtech desktop client Solution Design--** Blockchain eDelivery desktop client will be built with Electron. Electron is a framework for creating native applications with web technologies like JavaScript, HTML, and CSS.

### 5. BLOCKCHAIN 4THTECH MOBILE CLIENT

**Proposed Solution--** Based on the presented desktop client, we propose the development of the blockchain 4thtech mobile client, for Android and iOS. The mobile client will include most features of a desktop client, with the addition of biometric backup and verification options, as mobile devices support superior biometric sensors compared to desktop computers (i.e. fingerprint scanner and face recognition). Mobile client main functions will be; (1) electronic data and documents encryption; (2) electronic data and documents exchange; (3) external electronic data and documents repository (i.e. Google Drive, Dropbox, 4thpillar technologies data repository), and; (4) settings options.

**Development Plan--** We propose the following blockchain eDelivery mobile client development plan; (1) development specification; (2) programming; (3) testing, and (4) deployment on *Google Play* and *Apple Store*.

**Solution Design--** Blockchain eDelivery mobile client will be built with NativeScript. NativeScript is an open-source framework to develop apps on the Apple iOS and Android platforms.

# 6. VARIOUS BLOCKCHAIN CONNECTION OPTION

As different blockchains are built to serve specific purpose and industry, an option of choice is a must. The eDelivery client will natively work on *Ethereum* blockchain and its fork versions. According to *What is Ethereum?* | *Ethereum.org*, n.d., the Ethereum community is the largest and most active blockchain community in the world. It includes core protocol developers, cryptoeconomic researchers, mining organizations, ETH holders, app developers, ordinary users, fortune 500 companies, and, as of 2018 also *4thpillar technologies* products.

The second blockchain eDelivery protocol (i.e. FOURdx) implementation is active from July 2020 on the Slovenian National Blockchain Testing Infrastructure called SI-Chain, which will enable testing of existing and new blockchain applications for the public and private sector. SI-

Chain was established by the innovative technology provider company Hashnet cooperation Telemach, with the telecommunication solutions provider, in November 2019 (Slovenia launches national test blockchain infrastructure and Slovenian Blockchain partnership | GOV.SI, n.d.). HashNet is an innovative consensus platform which provides a novel solution to computational and communicational difficulties of maintaining largesize public distributed ledgers. (Tolar - Next-gen *cryptocurrency*, n.d.)

Other *4thtech solution* implementations will follow, as the demand increases.

#### 7. ACCESS POINT

*Further development--* The further development will be focused towards deployment of an Enterprise Access Point, that is a key to connectivity between existing enterprise systems and 4thtech blockchain solutions. To connect to existing enterprise server backend systems, a high-end blockchain-enabled Access Point (i.e. AP) is needed. Govern by an Application Program Interface (i.e. API), the Access Point will serve as a connection point between existing enterprise IT infrastructure (i.e. ERP) and blockchain network. 4thtech AP will be designed according to enterprise needs, in the same role, it will act as an enterprise blockchain gateway and wallet, a connecting point and a bridge between both worlds.

AP key features and functionality; (1) blockchain electronic data and document exchange as AP key function; (2) serves as blockchain enterprise wallet; (3) generates and saves RSA key pairs (i.e. public and private keys), that decrypt received electronic data and document; (4) holds encrypted private keys; (5) compatible with Ethereum, HashNet and Polkadot public and private chains; (6) enables various data repository options; (7) enables blockchain digital identity verification over 4thtech web services, and; (8) enables hardware modules as an option provide additional cybersecurity.

### 8. DEVELOPMENT TIMELINE

Blockchain 4thtech cross-platform client has 8 development modules; (1) smart-contact DEV (estimated development time 30 days); (2) JSON metadata schema DEV (estimated development time 10 days); (3) document repository with notarisation function DEV (estimated development time 60 days) (4) RSA public key repository DEV (estimated development time 15 days); (5) digital identity mechanism DEV (estimated development time 70 days); (6) eDelivery cross-platform desktop client DEV (estimated development time 180 days); (7) eDelivery cross-platform mobile client DEV (estimated development time 180 days); (8) blockchain CEF access point development (estimated development time 140 days), and; (9) SI-Chain implementation (estimated development time 60 days).

#### 7. CONCLUSION

The internet changed the way we live, it opened the ways of unlimited communication and revolutionized access to information, but it failed greatly regarding our digital freedom. Instead of, peer-to-peer communication and simplification, it evolved into a system of global intermediaries, that manipulate our private data. Blockchain technology was by now recognised as the technology with high potential to restore online trust and enable final steps toward digital transformation.

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# **BIOS**

Dr. **Tali Rezun** is Slovenian, of Slovenian and Jordanian origin. Born in Ljubljana in 1978, he started his entrepreneurial career at the age



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4thtech CTO, he is researching and developing blockchain and DLT systems and their integration into existing IT systems. Denis also manages the first SI-Chain application integration between different DLT frameworks. He is highly proficient in PHP, JS and MySQL. His focus remains set on quality and secure, fast final products.