***Blockchain in Diamond Industry***

Editor: Qinghuan Sept 15, 2017

“The Blockchain promises faster, more secure supply chains and consumer confidence, diamond, a beautiful luxury, no doubt, for businesses worldwide.”

Diamonds represent beauty, luxury, and true love—though some of them have a dark side. Unscrupulous companies mine “blood diamonds,” and counterfeiters fill the market with convincing fakes. It’s not easy to ensure that you’re buying an authentic, conflict-free gem.

A distributed computing technology, the blockchain, that powers Bitcoin and so many other cryptocurrencies, could be a solution. At its heart the blockchain produces an indelible, tamper-proof ledger. This new type of technology has been believed that could transform industries like shipping, insurance, and finance. But the diamond business has been one of the first to embrace the technology wholeheartedly.

A London-based company called Everledger has placed more than 1.6 million diamonds on a blockchain. Items on the digital record include attributes like color, carat, and certificate number for each diamond, which can be inscribed by laser on the crown or girdle of the stone.

The technology has enabled diamond suppliers (and intermediaries like border agents) to replace a paper certification process with a blockchain ledger. The process involves using computer scanning tools to access a “digital vault” and to determine the origin of any diamond.

In the meantime, Everledger is adding other luxury goods to the blockchain. The company tracks bottles of wine using hidden codes added to them by vintners, allowing anyone to consult a blockchain to see where the bottle originated and how it was distributed. Everledger is also applying the technology to fine art, a bigger challenge since even tiny inscriptions can be considered destructive. It’s exploring applications with museum and exhibition clients.

All of this hints at the sweeping way blockchain technology could change how goods move around the world. The government of Singapore, for instance, is focusing on much larger initiatives than diamonds: global trade. It is building blockchain tools that, if adopted by shippers and merchants, will be part of a new digital trade corridor for commodities. The effort promises faster, more secure supply chains and consumer confidence—a beautiful luxury, no doubt, for businesses worldwide.

Tags：Blockchain; Diamond; Supplychain

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**钻石产业着迷区块链**

作者：清欢 2017.09.15

*“有了区块链，钻石行业的供应链将变得更加安全，用户信心也会增加。”*

钻石代表美丽、奢华和真爱—虽然有些钻石有黑暗的一面。一些缺乏商业道德的公司开采“血钻”，伪造者作怪，逼真的赝品充斥市场。要想保证购买到货真价实、无冲突的宝石还不是件容易事。

区块链，一项支持比特币和许多其他加密货币的分布式计算技术也许可以解决这一问题。区块链可以生产无法消除的、防损毁的总账。这种新的记录保存类型可以大大提高效率，对船运、保险和金融等行业会产生深刻的变革影响。但钻石产业一直是率先致力于利用这项技术的行业之一。

位于伦敦的公司Everledger在区块链上放置了160多万块钻石。数字记录条目包括每个钻石的几十项属性，包括颜色、克拉数和证书编号等，这些数字可以被激光刻在钻石皇冠或腰带上。

这项技术使钻石供应商（和边界代理等中介）用区块链总账替代了书面的认证过程。该过程涉及使用电脑扫描工具评估“数字保险库”，并确定所有钻石的来源。

同时，Everledger正在将其他奢侈品添加到区块链当中。公司使用葡萄酒商添加到酒瓶上的隐藏密码对酒瓶进行追踪，任何人都可以参考区块链查看瓶子的起源地及分发地。Everledger还将该技术应用到艺术中，这是一项更大的挑战，因为即使很小的字也对艺术作品有破坏性。公司正在博物馆和展览馆中探索应用。

所有这些都暗示着区块链技术将对货物在全球范围内的流通产生颠覆性的影响。例如，新加坡政府正在关注比钻石更大的倡议：全球贸易。新加坡正在建立区块链工具，如果工具被航运人和商人采用，将成为新数字贸易走廊的一部分。如此，钻石行业的供应链将变得更加安全，用户信心也会增加。

标签： 区块链； 砖石；供应链

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