



Goodbye Ethereum: Kik Plans to Move Its ICO Tokens to Stellar



Nikhilesh De   

 Dec 14, 2017 at 21:00 UTC

NEWS

Mobile messaging startup Kik is planning to shift its Kin token network from ethereum to Stellar, CEO Ted Livingston confirmed on Wednesday.

Speaking in a [live question-and-answer session on YouTube](#), the company's founder argued that ethereum's blockchain – which the app is presently based on – is unable to scale to the level that Kin needs, among other issues. The answer, he said, is to shift to the [Stellar](#) network, first unveiled in 2014 and created by Ripple co-founder Jed McCaleb.

Livingston went as far as to blast ethereum as "the dial-up era of blockchain," noting that gas prices – which are needed to execute computations – and other transaction fees need to be built into the app to ensure users' transactions go through. Kik first announced it was [contemplating a move onto another blockchain](#) in October, stating that ethereum's scaling issues meant it "might not be the right solution" at the time.

In Wednesday's video, Livingston said Kin was pushing the limits of what ethereum could handle with its roughly 10,000 users. The network's reliability is another factor in the planned move, he said, pointing to [recent network congestion as a result of the popular CryptoKitties app](#).

Livingston explained in the video:

"Stellar was built by the guys at Ripple and the thing we like about it is it's custom-built for an application like Kin. It's not like ethereum where it's trying to be everything to everybody, and that makes it general-purpose and slow."

Over the next few weeks, Kik will test Stellar's scalability and reliability, according to Livingston.

"It's very focused on what it's trying to solve for: fast, reliable and inexpensive transactions for a lot of people," he said.

A Kik spokesperson told CoinDesk that a limited number of users would begin using the app by the end of December, which represents somewhat of a delay due to the CryptoKitties congestion.

Assuming the tests are successful, Livingston said he foresees a second-quarter rollout of the app, built on Stellar, to all users.

Brady Dale contributed reporting.

Disclosure: CoinDesk is a subsidiary of Digital Currency Group, which has an ownership stake in Ripple.

Image Credit: [nukeaf / Shutterstock.com](#)

The leader in blockchain news, CoinDesk is an independent media outlet that strives for the highest journalistic standards and abides by a [strict set of editorial policies](#). Have breaking news or a story tip to send to our journalists? Contact us at news@coindesk.com.




PREVIOUS ARTICLE



Malaysia's Central Bank Releases Draft Rules for...

NEXT ARTICLE



DOJ Alleges Bitcoin Involved in Attempted ISIS Funding

SPONSORED BUSINESS CONTENT

dianomi

Turn \$100 into Fortune Without Risking a Dime in the Stock Market

Crowdability

This Stock is Being Called a "Game Changer" for the Marijuana Industry

Leafbuyer

This 10-minute technique could make you \$3,585 a month

Dent Research

Who Will Emerge as the Apple of Cannabis?

Emerald

How 1 Man Turned \$50,000 into \$5.3 Million

Investing Daily

Bill Gates Says This Will Be Worth “10 Microsofts”

The Motley Fool

James Altucher reveals how to make a fortune with cryptocurrencies

Agora Financial

The No. 1 Stock to Buy Right Now (It's Not Pot)

Banyan Hill

RELATED STORIES

Dec 15, 2017 at 16:00 | Sujha Sundararajan

Ethereum, Ripple And Litecoin Have Arrived on Bloomberg Terminals

Dec 15, 2017 at 13:00 | Alyssa Hertig

Crypto Collectables? Ethereum's Next Killer App Is on Its Way

Dec 14, 2017 at 17:00 | Rachel Rose O'Leary

Yellowing Paper: What's Delaying a Crucial Ethereum Update?

Dec 14, 2017 at 02:05 | Michael del Castillo

Plan B? Ethereum Innovators Are Reviving the Fight for Net Neutrality

Bitcoin

Ethereum

\$17622.22

\$692.62

+

The SEC’s analysis of DAO tokens being securities will have what sort of impact on token sales going forward? (select all that apply)

- ☐ Token sales will fall in quantity but rise in quality
- ☐ More token sales will start requiring accreditation
- ☐ More token sales will start excluding potential U.S. investors
- ☐ Investors will be more cautious and diligent on the token sales they invest in

- ☐ Exchanges will not list tokens as quickly and nonchalantly
- ☐ Venture capital funding will rise relative to token sale funding
- ☐ None of the above, token sales will continue similarly to how they have been

VOTE

Don't miss a single story

Subscribe to our free newsletter and follow us

Email Address

SUBSCRIBE

Features



\$20k Bitcoin? Not Yet As Changing Charts Favor Crypto Rivals



Blockchain Brain Drain Is About More Than Money



Crypto Collectables? Ethereum's Next Killer App Is on Its Way



More to Come? Bitcoin Sets Record High Near \$18k

Have a breaking story?
[Let us know here »](#)



[About](#)

[Press](#)

[Events](#)

[Editorial policy](#)

[Comments policy](#)

[Terms & conditions](#)

[Privacy policy](#)

[Jobs](#)

[Advertising](#)

[Newsletter](#)