* The word "**token**" derives from the Old English "**tācen**," meaning a sign or symbol
* However, this is only one possible use. Tokens can be programmed to serve many different functions, often overlapping
* Tokens are fungible when we can substitute any single unit of the token for another without any difference in its value or function.
* The real problem is that utility tokens introduce significant risks and adoption barriers for startups
* The ether balance of Ethereum accounts is handled at the protocol level, whereas the token balance of Ethereum accounts is handled at the smart contract level.
* In order to create a new token on Ethereum, you must create a new smart contract
* The first standard was introduced in November 2015 by Fabian Vogelsteller as an Ethereum Request for Comments (ERC).
* ERC20 is a standard for *fungible tokens*, meaning that different units of an ERC20 token are interchangeable and have no unique properties.
* ERC20 tokens can have a fixed or a variable supply.