Blockcerts and Echolink Comparative Analysis

Current efforts to digitalize documents of achievements by using Blockchain technology will revolutionize the industry in many ways for sure. Current certification market is way behind its potential and lack technological improvements. With Blockchain Technology it is possible to add immutability, reachability, authenticity and more features to the system desired to be designed.

Projects vary from each other with simple design decisions made in the early stages of development process, which causes a snowballing

effect by the delivery of the final product. That’s why every decision needs to be considered with carefully with respect to the history of certificates. From our point of view academic projects take the lead at current market of *’’Blockchain based certification*’’ and its followed by few other private companies such as Echolink , BCDiploma etc. By academy it means that Blockcerts project developed by Massachusetts Institute of Technology. Blockcerts project is an effort to achieve an open standard in the Blockchain Industry. That’s why any institute is welcomed to join their platform and issue their documents of achievements with using Bitcoin and Ethereum Blockchain.

Echolink claims that their structure is chain agnostic and runs on various platforms, however the first implementation works only on Ethereum Blockchain and future developments will include Neo, Dash and IOTA. It will be a huge challenge for them to implement this technology to these various platforms as we know the fundamental flows in some of these platforms causes even a basic transaction to fail. In both of the projects is possible to issue batch of documents, the difference occurs when it comes to revocation of the documents. Blockcerts makes it possible to revoke the document of achievement after its issued and written to the chain by putting a flag to the corresponding transaction, there is no possibility of revocation on Echolink’s platform. Verification process being used by Blockcerts is more sophisticated when compared to Echolink, when a document of achievement is uploaded its assumed verified. Blockcerts uses multiple steps to verify the document by checking transaction information, issuers identity, revocation information and more. Today Blockcerts is just focusing on diplomas and academic certificates. Echolink claims that they are not just focusing on diplomas, they are also providing working records, financial records and checks. Also, Echolink has a token in crypto-currency market and their market-cap is: 1.930.000 [USD](https://www.coindigital.com/what-is-echolink-eko/). Since Blockcert is an academic project from MIT , there is no market-cap.

For end user’s there is not much difference, both services can be accessed through web while Blockcerts offers mobile supports for their users it seems like Echolinks is planning to add a mobile support in the future and also a “Dynamic Blockchain Browser” which offers improved user experience according to their claim. The most distinctive difference about these two projects is Ecolink is a paid service provided by third party, Blockcerts is more like a community driven project to standardize this system between institutions, only cost on this project is the mining fee paid in the process issuance of the documents.

Notes

* Blockcert is using Bitcoin and Ethereum. Echolink is using multiple blockchains: Ethereum NEO Dash Iota (tangle)

* Platform token on echolink.

* Blockcerts has a community about issues development ect. Echolink does not have that kind of community.

* Blockcerts allows us to revoke certificates, echolink does not have any feature like that.

* Both issues documents are in batch.

* Blockcerts verification process has multiple-steps, its complex. Echolink has no verification.

* Both projects achieve privacy with hashing.

* Blockcerts and MIT Media Lab provided useful and helpful documents, Echolink lack of documents.

* Blockcerts is using website and app, Echolink is using web for now but they will publish their app in the future.

* Oracles in echolink, no need in blockcerts