Hey Secret Network Community,

I hope you're all doing fantastic and making the most of this summer. I've got some important updates to share, and there's a big personal announcement in the mix too.

My journey began with a singular focus: to address the challenges of private computation. This drive fueled my research, giving birth to Secret Network, and I'm incredibly proud of where we've gotten with it. We've created the world's first and most expansive private computation network. And while we've come far, there's so much more to do and so much to look forward to. We've set the stage, and many are now following our lead. We truly are the trailblazers, guiding Web3 safely forward, and Secret needs to make sure it leads the path for everyone else.

The growth of Secret has been phenomenal. It's now bigger than just SCRT Labs or me. Numerous organizations and our dedicated community are driving it ahead. And, as the CEO of SCRT Labs, my capacity to make instant changes has naturally diminished - and that's a good thing. As a crypto project evolves, a CEO often finds themselves more in administrative and diplomatic roles. But as many of you know, I shine brightest when I'm immersed in uncharted research and development.

So, I've decided to focus on how best I can advance the cause of private computation in Web3: through research. I've re-enrolled in the PhD program at the MIT Media Lab, an academic environment that will serve to sharpen my focus and build deeper connections with the community researching private computation.

You've already caught a glimpse of my recent work in our paper on enclaves and MPC [Threshold Unstoppable Wallets](), and as many of you know – I'm also very excited about FHE, which is at a tipping point. More generally, my goal is to discover the optimal blend of technologies to sculpt the future of privacy in Web3, and I'm convinced that a multi-faceted approach is the key, in which Secret has a huge part to play.

With my shift towards research and focusing on building rather than managing, we needed someone to take on the role of CEO at SCRT Labs. Someone who gets our vision and can, alongside the awesome Lisa Loud at the Secret Network Foundation, steer Secret into its next growth phase.

That's why I'm excited to announce that Alex Zaidelson, the ex-CEO & brains behind the Beam Privacy Blockchain, is joining us! Alex also brings a lot of expertise in the DeFi, MEV and Ethereum L2 ecosystems, through his more recent role as one of the leading figures at VirtuSwap. With Alex and Lisa at the forefront, it feels like we're assembling a crypto dream team. We'll share more about Alex's joining in the next couple of weeks, where we give him the stage to introduce himself. For now, suffice to say that I couldn't imagine a better person to lead SCRT Labs and Secret in it's next growth phase.

But just to clarify: I'm still very much here, and deeply committed to SCRT Labs and the Secret Network. With the buzz around MEV, randomness, and account abstraction, it's evident that the Private Compute space is set to boom. And Secret is primed to spearhead this revolution as the leading decentralized private computation network. I'll continue to play an active part in our journey, both through my research and in my ongoing role at SCRT Labs, plus as an engaged board member of the Secret Network Foundation. The strategy's the same, just with a few role tweaks.

Thank you for your unwavering support and for being the heartbeat of this network. Here's to more milestones, innovations, and good times ahead!

Stay awesome,

Guy