
Federated Reserve & Prestige IT

Entity: Name (or first name if applying as a natural person)

Federated Reserve & Prestige IT

Entity: E-mail address

support@prestigeit.io

Team member introductions

Chris (@mrroboto) - Technical Advisor

Chris is a Senior Engineer and Researcher at Honda Research Institute Japan, developing AI and robotics. In 2013, Chris took leave from university to join Amazon.com and develop web services for marketplace vendor transactions, where he helped recover \$10M in annual revenue. After completing his degree, Chris joined AWS to help build software that moves petabytes of data from data centers around the world to the AWS cloud. During his time at AWS, Chris helped design, develop, build, test, and deploy this software globally. Chris helped provision and maintain the large server fleets that run the software, implement tools and alarms to monitor software and server performance. He was global on-call for service outages and bugs. He conducted performance analysis (software profiling, network analysis) and basic vulnerability testing on the software and led service launches into new Asia regions. Chris worked directly with enterprise customers to investigate and resolve technical issues. Prior to Amazon, Chris' focus was in AI research. In his free time Chris enjoys contributing to open source, leading NASA's Apollo 11 open source project on GitHub.

Saul (@swibb) - Lead Server Architect

Saul is a seasoned IT professional with a focus on networking, systems, and cybersecurity. He has in-depth industry knowledge of cloud based and in-house infrastructure, systems, and cybersecurity, and has made it his mission to bring industry best practice to the blockchain arena.

- CSIS - CompTIA Secure Infrastructure Specialist
- Systems Administration
- Infrastructure Architecture
- Network Security

Ransom (@ransoing) - Server Administrator

Ransom studied Computer Science in college, and has spent a decade working in the Aerospace industry, creating web applications that provide worldwide access to scientific data and enabling spacecraft operators to perform mission-critical analysis of telemetry data. He recently dove headlong into cryptocurrency and cryptographic applications, learning the intricacies of cryptography and creating a robust fail-safe backup solution for blockchain private keys.

- Experienced with security best practices for both front-end and server-side web application code
- Well-acquainted with how private keys and recovery mnemonics are generated and used within software and hardware wallets

- Current blockchain projects:

- CryptoCoinBackup
- Open Savings Initiative

Colin @vanish - Lead Security Architect

Colin brings 8+ years of experience in IT as an Architect, Engineer, Consultant, Pre-Sales, Implementation, and Technical Support, with substantial experience in critical customer-facing roles as a primary technical point of contact for customers and partners internationally. Passionate about team member and client relationships, Colin's greatest strength is in partnering with both end-users and project sponsors to achieve success with customized and impactful Information Security solutions.

- Highly experienced working with Bash, Python, Powershell, SQL, and

REST APIs

- Specialized in Secure Architecture, Virtualization, Endpoint Security,

Continuous Monitoring, Data Analytics, and Security Automation &

Orchestration

- Technical leader of implementation projects, solutions design, client

success, technical training, and ongoing support

Henry (@Henry Liu) - Community Growth & Marketing

Henry spent 2+ years at Facebook leading growth strategies for venture-backed e-commerce startups.

- 15+ success stories, some of which have been featured in F8 (Facebook's Developer Conference), Ad Week, and Cannes Lions Festival.

- Managed over 100 businesses and \$150M+ in ad revenue (\$450M+ in e-commerce sales).

- Member of the hiring team, mentor, and sole trainer for Ads Auction & Delivery for new-hires.

Nathan (@scooterdobbins) - Community Growth & Marketing

Nathan has 10+ years of business development experience with a concentration in communication, cybersecurity, and network administration. Since starting his own cybersecurity consulting business, Nathan has become passionate about bringing security education to the forefront of the blockchain community.

- Experience includes:

- Security best practices
- End-user/community education
- Corporate security auditing
- Policy and procedure creation

Chris (@corem1) - Business Strategy

Chris spent 10+ years as a strategist working both at startups and Fortune 500 companies. He has spent the last 5 years supporting cybersecurity strategy in the IT, gaming, and telco industries. His current areas of focus include:

- Cybersecurity program strategy, roadmap, and execution

- Defining standards and capabilities for data security
- Agile and service management
- Customer experience

Mark (@markthorsen) - Finance & Operations

For the last 4 years, Mark led new investments for the Central Texas Angel Network (CTAN) - the most active angel investment group in the US. He vetted and advised over 1,000 startups across all industries, and helped deploy over \$60M of capital into 120+ seed stage companies.

- Prior to CTAN, Mark co-founded two tech startups, for which he raised over \$600k in seed investment, hired the teams, and led growth.
- Mark began his career in finance for 5 years where he managed over \$100 million in daily traded collateralized securities.
- He graduated college in 3 years with a degree in Economics.

Lisa (@lisaesq) - In-House Legal Counsel

Lisa has practiced corporate law for the last 8 years. She is licensed in California and Texas. Her areas of practice include corporate contracts & transactions, trusts & estates, real estate, and start-ups. She is Managing Partner of her own legal practice where she advises companies on contracts of all types, including but not limited to:

- Purchase agreements
- Commercial leases
- Master service agreements
- Franchise agreements

[Introduce your Entity/Company](#)

Federated Reserve and Prestige IT applied in the last round to be an Authority Node Operator, but were runner up and third runner up, respectively, in the selection process. The two companies have joined forces this application cycle! The combined teams bring together more than three decades of experience managing complex business and technical projects including web service development and operations for enterprise.

Team members include seasoned professionals from Facebook, Google, Amazon and AWS, as well as cybersecurity, organizational security, corporate finance, and venture capital industries. We have a presence in three time zones to ensure global coverage, and have been running 4 nodes (1 federated, 3 followers) for the last 4 months with 99% uptime.

We have been involved in crypto since 2013, and today work at the forefront of the industry as builders, advisors, and investors to ensure its long-term success.

[How many nodes do you envision to run on the Factom Community Testnet \(or other testnets?\)](#)

2

[What type of legal structure does your team use?](#)

LLC

Will you operate as an incorporated company?

Yes

If yes to the above, where are you/will you incorporate? Are you already incorporated?

Colorado, United States

Are there any major shareholders (>10%) other than the members in your application?

No

Do you and/or your team members have previous experience running a business or managing large capital? If so, make a short writeup of your experience below.

Mark, who manages the team's Finance & Business Operations, spent the last 4 years leading new investments for the Central Texas Angel Network (CTAN) - the most active angel investment group in the US. During his time there, he led \$60M of new investments into over 120 companies. Before that, Mark started two tech startups for which he personally raised over \$600k of angel investment. And before that, he worked in finance for 5 years where he managed over \$100 million in daily traded collateralized securities.

What has your team done to ensure a proactive approach to managing the financial aspects of your business?

Our team has other income streams and also maintains enough cash at all times to cover 6 months worth of projected operating expenses. We have in-house legal counsel who has outlined in our LLC Operating Agreement the means by which we distribute Factoids among our team members. We've engaged Cohen & Co, an accounting firm experienced in crypto, to handle our accounting. Lastly, we've hired a professional bookkeeper to ensure we maintain proper books and records.

Clarify your commitment to the Factom protocol? What have you brought to the table already, and what will you bring in the future?

We have been contributing to the Factom Community Testnet since March 2018. We currently maintain a federated server and 3 follower nodes, and have showcased our reliability as an Authority Node Operator within the confines of the testnet. During this time, we have invested thousands of dollars in cloud server infrastructure to support our nodes with ample resources. We plan to continue operating two nodes on testnet alongside our two main-net nodes if selected as an Authority Node Operator.

GRANTS

We will be deferring 50% gross revenue to the Grant Pool.

CONFERENCES

We are very active blockchain advisors and investors, and frequently get invited to speak at well-known conferences. This year alone we've spoken at over half a dozen conferences globally. If elected as an ANO, we'll use these conferences as a platform to evangelize Factom to the hundreds, sometimes thousands of attendees. This exposure can lead to new users, customers, investors, and partners for Factom.

Here is the list of conferences in 2018 that we have attended and are scheduled to attend:

- Medici Summit
- Tech Summit
- The North American Bitcoin Conference

- Blockchain and Energy
- Bitcoin & Ethereum Super Conference
- Anarchapulco
- Tokyo Accelerator Event
- POLYCON
- APAC Blockchain
- Token 2049
- Blockchain Conference 2018
- Italian Fintech Forum
- Facebook F8 Developer Conference
- Blockchain Innovations Networking in Dubai
- Consensus 2018
- Blockchain & Bitcoin Summit 2018
- Futurist Conference Toronto
- Global Blockchain Summit 4
- Texas Bitcoin Conference 2018
- Money 2020 / Coin Agenda
- Hong Kong Fintech Week
- Scaling Bitcoin
- Hyperledger
- DevCon4
- Consensus Invest

PARTNERSHIPS

Additionally, we are founding members and Austin chapter chairs of the Silicon Valley Blockchain Society (SVBS). This is a global group of institutional investors and blockchain entrepreneurs who meet monthly to learn about the best blockchain projects. We can use this platform to educate new audiences on the benefits of Factom.

CONTENT MARKETING

One of our team members, Henry, comes from Facebook where he specialized in helping small and medium sized enterprises scale their audiences. He is willing to advise Factom on the same. We also have close relationships with a tech writer at Huffington Post, community organizers in Europe that led community development for Polymath, and content creators in China who run the country's top ten WeChat groups and top ten crypto media sites that we can facilitate introductions to.

PERSONAL SECURITY RESOURCE

We have developed internal solutions that protect against the exploitation of common attack vectors and crypto storage pitfalls, that we would be happy to share with the Factom community.

What is your/your entity's motivation for applying for hosting Factom Authority servers?

Our motivation for hosting Factom Authority servers is supporting a project that has real world applications today - something most blockchain projects lack. Our team has been involved in crypto since 2013 and thinks long term when making investments. But it's very exciting to be part of a project that is effecting change today.

What vision do you/your entity have of the future of Factom?

The future of Factom is very important for our world as it allows the public to validate data, provide trust, and bring honesty to industries that often require centralized parties and enormous amount of credibility and resources. We believe that by contributing to the Factom network through pledging to the Grant Pool and making sure that the servers are safe and long-standing, we can accelerate the adoption of the Factom network and make the world more honest and fair.

What will your efficiency be with only one node?	0,5
What will your efficiency be with two nodes?	0,5

Node #1 Type	Virtual Private Server (VPS)
<i>Node #1 Location (VPS: Provider, Region // Other: Country, City, Datacenter)</i>	AWS, sa-east-1c // Sao Paulo, Brazil
<i>Node #1 CPU, Number of cores</i>	8
<i>Node #1 CPU, type & clock-speed</i>	Intel Xeon Platinum 8175 @ 2.5 GHz (m5.2xlarge)
<i>Node #1 RAM, amount in GB</i>	32
<i>Node #1 RAM, scalable if < 24 GB</i>	Not applicable (>= 24 GB)
<i>Node #1: Storage, RAID type</i>	None
<i>Node #1: Storage, Disk type</i>	SSD, Provisioned IOPS SSD @ 600 IOPS
<i>Node #1: Storage, Free Size in GB for Factom</i>	200
<i>Node #1: Storage, Do you have a separate factom volume/disks?</i>	Shared with OS
<i>Node #1: Connection & uplink speed (not just your NIC speed)</i>	Up to 10 Gigabit*

Node #2 Type	Virtual Private Server (VPS)
<i>Node #2 Location (VPS: Provider, Region // Other: Country, City, Datacenter)</i>	AWS, us-east-2b // US, Ohio
<i>Node #2 CPU, Number of cores</i>	8
<i>Node #2 CPU, type & clock-speed</i>	Intel Xeon Platinum 8175 @ 2.5 GHz (m5.2xlarge)
<i>Node #2 RAM, amount in GB</i>	32
<i>Node #2 RAM, scalable if < 24 GB</i>	Not applicable (>= 24 GB)
<i>Node #2: Storage, RAID type</i>	None
<i>Node #2: Storage, Disk type</i>	SSD, Provisioned IOPS SSD @ 600 IOPS
<i>Node #2: Storage, Free Size in GB for Factom</i>	200
<i>Node #2: Storage, Do you have a separate factom volume/disks?</i>	Shared with OS
<i>Node #2: Connection & uplink speed (not just your NIC speed)</i>	Up to 10 Gigabit*

Add any other information relevant to server specifications and hosting, including planned availability of your maintenance team and how you would propose to handle an unscheduled restart.

Prestige IT will provide 24x7 support for the nodes we host. We have a support email address that can be used to communicate issues, needed actions, etc. This email address generates a ticket into our ticketing system which is viewable by all team members. We also have a support phone number that will ring each team member's phone in rotation according to team technical skill hierarchy. We also actively monitor the Factom discord chat for updates, changes, and scheduled maintenance windows.

Which date did you join the Factom community testnet (approximate date is ok)?

3/29/2018

How does your team administer the nodes (more options possible)?

By more than 1 team member

How many people in your team are able to operate the servers (including direct hired personnel, but excluding hired fallback companies)?

5

How many years of combined experience does your team have on running production servers?

20

Could you elaborate on the production servers your team has managed (amounts, OS-types, purpose)?

We have managed hundreds of production servers providing varying services, including: Web, Dev, Email, Real-Time Communication, Monitoring, File Storage, Sharepoint, Domain Controller, Print, Application, Virtual Hosts, Database, FTP, Remote Access, etc...

OS Types: Windows Server (NT, 2003, 2008, 2008 R2, 2012, 2012 R2, 2016); Linux Server (Ubuntu, Debian, Red Hat, Cent OS), VMware (ESXI, VCenter Server)

Have you run follower nodes outside the qualified-node pool on the testnet? If so to what effect? Other contributions to the testnet?

No

Have you run any mainnet nodes? If yes, please elaborate why, and for how long

We have not run any mainnet nodes.

How are you going to make sure your nodes operate securely?

All of our nodes are contained within hardened AWS security group and VPC designed specifically for the needs of Factom. The only ports allowed through the firewall are ones absolutely necessary for Factom to function. The SSH port used for administration has been moved from its default of 22 to a custom port number to prevent any exploit or malicious actions on well known standard ports. In addition, only approved IP addresses are whitelisted for SSH access. All nodes have advanced CloudWatch monitoring enabled so our team will be alerted to resource over-consumption and system faults. At the OS level, we have disabled all unnecessary services unrelated to Factom, and we have enabled a secure NTP service to ensure proper time syncing from a vetted server. System shared memory has been secured, and a security login banner has been added.

How are you going to make sure you are able to respond quickly?

We have a company help desk phone number which rotates between all of our team members. Additionally, we have an IT support ticketing system which forwards support requests to all team members to ensure rapid response.

Could you provide a picture on how you would see your ideal auth node infrastructure?

Our ideal infrastructure would be a dynamic cloud based architecture to ensure maximum flexibility so we easily adapt to the evolving needs of the Factom protocol. All of our nodes would operate with utilization rates under 60% for all metrics. We believe that we are currently close to meeting our ideal infrastructure goals with our current builds.

Free-text. Add any additional information deemed relevant.

We as a team are fully open to any changes or recommendations regarding server configuration, specs, or location that would be deemed more beneficial to the protocol. The beauty of our choice to go with a cloud architecture, is that it allows us to scale with increasing needs, and be dynamic in our approach. If there is an under-served VPS region, a more well suited server configuration, or a need for increased hardware specifications, we are more than happy apply those changes as needed.

Add any application supporting files here