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*Anchor Block*

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

Anchor Block

Entity: E-mail address

info@anchorblock.io

Team member introductions

Please see attached PDF for full team members backgrounds.

Introduce your Entity/Company

Anchor Block is a recreation of our previous application which was submitted under "Branson Consulting." We saw some issues from the first found that pertained to support and contributions and we wanted to revamp everything. After hours of brainstorming we came up with a new entity, an entity that includes multiple verticals. In June we introduced to the community our "Daily Discord Digest" where we compile all the important conversations for the day that were discussed in Discord and send out to our subscribers. We decided to put efforts towards content creation and have since developed and created our first tutorial video on "How to Perform a Brainswap" on the testnet. We want to assist in helping newcomers to the Factom ecosystem by streamlining communications and the onboarding process. We have added 2 new team members that are fully committed to the project, one being our main systems administrator. Anchor Block has trained 4 of our team members to provide 24/7 support to the infrastructure. On top of this, we have developed a few more ideas and plans for next steps should we be selected, check out our attached PDF!

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?

We will incorporate in Montana, 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.

Cody has been running his own consulting company for almost 2 years now fully revolving around cryptocurrencies and blockchain tech. Having seen the ups and downs of business, and of the crypto currency market, Cody has developed thick skin and is here for the long haul. Cody has assisted clients with managing large capital investments and helped them understand how wallets, exchanges and how the blockchain works spanning across multiple cryptos. Previously Cody spent time working under a few business and assisted with growing the business and overcoming obstacles in marketing, sales, personnel turnover, managing people and increasing profits.

Dennis is our business growth partner. He has helped grow multiple businesses in the past 20 years. See his bio on our attached PDF for the full spectrum of the value he brings to the table.

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

After consulting with our financial advisor we have a much better understanding on how we can continue business through the different scenarios that can play out. We have come up with a document regarding how we will manage capital based off multiple variables including price per FCT, 1 and 2 server management, cloud computing rates and ways to cut costs.

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

Anchor Block configured and deployed our first testnet server in February of 2018. After consulting and revamping our business we added 2 nodes to the testnet in June of 2018 and added one more since. We started our "Daily Discord Digest" in May for the team members at Go Immutable in order to keep some of the members up to speed with the discussions. After receiving great feedback from the team we opened it up to the community in June and currently are aiding in keeping multiple ANOs and community members up to speed everyday. In July we launched our newly designed website with our updated logos/names/content. We made it easier to join our newsletter by creating a subscription service through Mail Chimp and are currently in talks with adding this to other ANO sites to widen Factoms audience. A large part of our proposal is the creation of content directed towards testnet users and prospective ANOs, we created our first video and uploaded to our site. We also created a Youtube channel that is going to be dedicated to tutorials material and currently has our first video on it.

We have plans in play to design/develop/create/deploy multiple more video tutorials to our instituted resources. These videos include tutorials for onboarding the testnet for the first time, what is Factom, Factom and Bitcoin comparisons, how to create and identity, How to spin up a node - going all the way from scratch on the GCP console to running factomd.

We are currently also planning a site that will act as a hub for all current ANOs and prospective ANOs. A site where anyone interested in getting more involved with Factom can go check out and get up to speed. This includes content creation, design work, marketing, tutorials, google doc links, discord channel links, our newsletter subscription, and more.

We want to free up more time for ANOs going after bigger fish, so we have agreed to manage servers on the testnet for the team at Go Immutable and a soft commitment from the team at LayerTech. We plan to open this up to more ANOs as we grow.

Anchor Block sees the need in acquiring a larger presence on exchanges, and as part of our pledges we are committed to partaking in this development.

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

Anchor Block is here for the long haul. We have been involved with the Factom community since the start of the year and want to see it grow. The amount of talent that is in the community is unreal and we feel lucky we get to play a small part. Anchor Blocks motivation is tied into our mission, we want to lead the charge in video content creation and streamline efficiency with communications. We believe with less ANOs resources tied to mundane tasks we can impact the future by carrying the load. Our vision is to create video tutorial content for current ANOs and aspiring ANOs, aid teams in communications, and assist in getting Factom trading everywhere.

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

Anchor Blocks vision for the future of Factom lies in the technology that Factom offers. We see the incredible power the immutable tech behind Factoms blockchain and want to help the world see it too. By sticking to our pledges and taking on new ventures, we believe we can realize this.

<b>What will your efficiency be with only one node?</b>	<b>0,5</b>
<b>What will your efficiency be with two nodes?</b>	<b>0,5999999999999999</b>

<b>Node #1 Type</b>	<b>Virtual Private Server (VPS)</b>
<i>Node #1 Location (VPS: Provider, Region // Other: Country, City, Datacenter)</i>	Google Cloud Platform - VPS - n1-standard-8. Location - London, England. Region - europe-west2
<i>Node #1 CPU, Number of cores</i>	8
<i>Node #1 CPU, type &amp; clock-speed</i>	Intel Xeon E5 2.8 GHz
<i>Node #1 RAM, amount in GB</i>	30
<i>Node #1 RAM, scalable if &lt; 24 GB</i>	Not applicable (>= 24 GB)
<i>Node #1: Storage, RAID type</i>	RAID 1
<i>Node #1: Storage, Disk type</i>	SSD
<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 &amp; uplink speed (not just your NIC speed)</i>	1 Gbit

<b>Node #2 Type</b>	<b>Virtual Private Server (VPS)</b>
<i>Node #2 Location (VPS: Provider, Region // Other: Country, City, Datacenter)</i>	Google Cloud Platform - VPS - n1-standard-8. Location - Finland. Region - europe-north1
<i>Node #2 CPU, Number of cores</i>	8
<i>Node #2 CPU, type &amp; clock-speed</i>	Intel Xeon E5 2.8 GHz
<i>Node #2 RAM, amount in GB</i>	30
<i>Node #2 RAM, scalable if &lt; 24 GB</i>	Not applicable (>= 24 GB)
<i>Node #2: Storage, RAID type</i>	RAID 1
<i>Node #2: Storage, Disk type</i>	SSD
<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 &amp; uplink speed (not just your NIC speed)</i>	1 Gbit

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.

Anchor Blocks will change out keys between 4 team members each month for an added layer of security. We take weekly snapshots in the event of an instance failure and the redundancy in GCP fails. We have implemented a monitoring system by using GCPs Stackdriver monitoring and linked this to our Pager Duty account for mobile push notifications. We have developed a calendar that includes "shifts" that each team member will be responsible for, covering 24/7 support and unforeseen maintenance of our servers. We built this out to handle any unforeseen issues that may arise, and are ready to cover it around the clock.

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

2/21/2018

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)?

4

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

15

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

Cody has deployed and managed a server set of 5 AWS t.2 mediums to handle enterprise wide applications which ran a sales quoting tool that connected multiple users and allowed sharing in the private cloud. Weekly snapshots were taken to provide an extra layer of redundancy and a fully configured firewall was deployed to allow access from static IPs only.

Vasiliy has managed local bare metal basic windows based machines for email and web hosting. Vasiliy has also managed cloud infrastructure regarding the testnet, bringing a node from 0 to running factomd with an associated identity. He is currently completing his docker certs on Udemy.

Brody has been involved in computer programming for 10 years. Starting out with basic website hosting and design to becoming a fully certified PHP backend developer managing a wide array of servers that support online video streams to over 25,000 people every week.

Karl has supported local and remote windows based machines for users with day to day issues. He has managed server infrastructure for his previous employer including print servers, group policy file sharing and Active Directory. Karl has performed 1st, 2nd and 3rd line support duties from basic troubleshooting to complex problem resolution in areas including Networking, Juniper Network Connect VPN, MS Office, Autodesk products, Explorer CRM software and Citrix applications.

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

Yes, we have ran both Authority Set nodes on the testnet and followers that are ready to be promoted. We have created a tutorial video to assist newcomers in performing brainswaps on the testnet.

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

No

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

Anchor Block has locked down our GCP VPC and set firewalls according to Factom. We change out our keys on a monthly basis. Anchor Block participated in the guard nodes discussion and ready to continue if the community votes to move forward. We use static IPs on all our instances and plan to implement a controller that we will run all our servers through to limit login permissions.

[How are you going to make sure you are able to respond quickly?](#)

We have setup our monitoring tools using Stackdriver in GCP and inject stall alerts over to our Pager Duty account which pushes mobile notifications to all team members. Depending on who is on call during that time from our teams calendar, we will be ready to act in any unforeseen incidents.

[Could you provide a picture on how you would see your ideal auth node infrastructure?](#)

We spin up the node running factomd and sit it behind a fully configured VPC firewall group and controller. We change out the keys every month as a precautionary step. We take weekly snapshots of each instance and have hot swap available follower nodes. We have Stackdriver alerts pushing to Pager Duty and setup TFAs alert bot in Discord. We implement guard nodes if the community decides this is a next step. We have 4 members that can fully support any unforeseen issues that may arise.

[Free-text. Add any additional information deemed relevant.](#)

Anchor Block appreciates the time and energy the Guides have taken to review our application and the behind the scenes work they put in. We hope that throughout the last 6 months we have shown our commitment to the Factom protocol and look forward to the future.

Thank you for your consideration,

Anchor Block Team

ps. Please see attached PDF for more information regarding our commitment.

[Add any application supporting files here](#)

[https://drive.google.com/open?id=1ZVLM4UsrEFPo\\_zH\\_lfG7Hds1ipynFITC](https://drive.google.com/open?id=1ZVLM4UsrEFPo_zH_lfG7Hds1ipynFITC)