SpiritOS

A Better Way To Be Together

Lucas Lemos Jason Doh

SpiritOS is software that turns the communities we already belong to into decentralized autonomous organizations capable of turning our collective desires into reality. It is a platform that provides software tools for harnessing our collective power to ensure the things that are important to us get the attention they deserve, and returns power to the people by enabling us to truly own and govern the communities that shape our day-to-day lives.

Using SpiritOS we can build new kinds of applications to run our communities that use the cryptocurrency LOVE to replace the perverse economic incentives of modern society with those that push us to do the work that is truly in our best interest as a people. By voting through SpiritOS smart contracts we can weigh in on how LOVE should flow through these applications, empowering the projects and people that make our communities worth being part of.

Incorporating SpiritOS into our lives will not require a radical shift in lifestyle. It augments our communities with software similar to the apps we already use in our daily life, adding value in subtle but powerful ways by leveraging the cryptocurrency LOVE. That said, it also opens the door to a new wave of applications that will completely reinvent what is possible to accomplish as a community.

SpiritOS is the new home for the communities that make your life meaningful. It is a tool that can help us return to a way of living that is more in line with our nature. A way to use technology to restore the communities that have been fragmented by the reckless pursuit of profit at all costs. And a new system that is, in every way that matters, a better way to be together.

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Part I

SpiritOS

SpiritOS is the **Operating System** of the **Spirit Network**, a layer 1 blockchain powered by the cryptocurrency **LOVE**. It is software infrastructure that enables groups of like-minded individuals to create, join and manage decentralized autonomous organizations called **Communities** that make it easy to turn online attention into real-world action.

Communities are the next stage of evolution of the online forum. They are a new digital home that augments our places of discussion with new ways of collaborating on shared goals. **Communities** use **SpiritOS** software applications called **Modules** to channel the energy we spend on the things we care about into the activities that make them better.

Modules can be thought of as software black boxes that take the cryptocurrency **LOVE** as an input and produce some predictable **Community** action as an output. They are applications that empower **Communities** with services that use the cryptocurrency **LOVE** to reward those who do some work on behalf of the **Community**. In the same way a company pays employees to solve its problems, **Communities** use **LOVE** pumped through **Modules** to accomplish **Community** goals.

SpiritOS launches with a number of powerful Modules for directing Community attention. A Community can level-up the quality of their content by installing the Content Feed Module, a Reddit inspired content aggregator. Or they can create awesome experiences by channelling LOVE through the Events Directory Module. Communities can even do things like hire full-time staff through the Hero Directory Module and build collectively owned assets through the Proposal Kickstarter Module.

Communities have discretion over which Modules they implement and how much LOVE should flow through each; ambitious Communities can even develop their own Modules. Additionally, the smart contracts powering each Module can be customized, giving Communities complete control over what work is done on its behalf. The right selection of Modules and smart contracts can recreate the incentive ecosystem of any institution no matter how large; there's a Community for everything.

Communities

At a high level, a **Community** is a body of people working together according to established rules to accomplish shared goals by leveraging **SpiritOS Modules**. One of the major innovations of **Communities** over traditional organizations is the process by which it sets its rules and goals. Rather than empower a central authority, **Communities** make decisions collectively through a blockchain-enabled democratic process; every member of a **Community** has a say in how it is run.

In blockchain terms, **Communities** are decentralized autonomous organizations, or **DAO**s. **DAO**s. Before **DAO**s it was possible to run decentralized organizations, but not autonomous ones.

A democracy is technically a decentralized organization in which power is distributed to the voters, but it is not autonomous because the voting process needs to be overseen by corruptible administrators. By encoding these voting processes on the blockchain through smart contracts, we remove the need to trust an intermediary, ensuring the rules and priorities of **DAO**s like our **Communities** will always accurately represent the true will of voting constituents.

Every **DAO** begins as the set of rules that dictate how its members can interact with it. These rules include specifics on how new members can join, what roles exist in the organization, how to install and remove **Modules**, what issues are up for vote, etc. A **DAO** comes into being only when this set of rules and relationships are turned into code and put into smart contracts on the blockchain. It isn't until people begin to interact with these smart contracts that a **DAO** actually starts taking shape, this is what is happening under the surface when users create and manage **Communities** through the **SpiritOS** interface.

Not every **DAO** is a **Community**. **Communities** are specialized **DAO**s that adhere to the rules defined in a set of default **Community** smart contracts. **Communities** are not the only **DAO**s on **SpiritOS**, there are also **Tribes** which operate according to rules inherited from a different set of smart contracts. While **Communities** are designed to facilitate collective efforts and are always open to new members, **Tribes** are private **DAO**s that are essentially companies with a few important differences.

Tribes

Tribes are the economic vehicles responsible for making **Community** dreams a reality. Unlike **Communities** which are open to the public, **Tribes** are private organizations that are designed first and foremost to be productive. They are profit-seeking entities that are created by users looking to earn **LOVE** both by doing work for **Communities**, and through selling goods and services through **Modules** of their own.

While **Communities** are an excellent framework for collaboration, **Tribes** are the better vehicle for productively applying **Community** funds. This is largely due to the fact that unlike **Communities** whose leaders are more like guides that direct attention than dictators, **Tribe** leaders, once elected, have complete control over the rules and resources of their organization.

The rules **Tribes** inherit through default smart contracts are far less restrictive than those of **Communities**. Once elected, **Tribe** leaders, or **CEO**s, have free reign to decide how they want to run their **Tribe**. For instance, **Tribe CEO**s can unilaterally hire and fire members, deploy **Tribe** funds, determine compensation, etc. That said, **Tribes** are subject to some rules, including a few that keep them accountable to the **Communities** they work for, minimize the possibility of fraud and ensure that their members are fairly treated.

In public companies, **CEO**s are elected by stockholders who only care about return. With **Tribes**, only members, or stakeholders, get a say in who is in charge. **Tribe CEO**s can not ignore the needs of other **Tribe** members if they wish to retain their position of authority, disincentivizing abusive employer-employee relationships like the international sweatshops powering many corporations.

Furthermore, the activity of **Tribes**, including cash flows, personnel changes, asset acquisitions, etc, are recorded on the blockchain giving **Communities** and **Tribe** customers a high degree of certainty that **Tribes** are operating in good faith. Not only does this make it nearly impossible to defraud the public, but it also gives **Tribe** members access to the payroll information they need to negotiate fairly with management.

While **Tribes** do not reinvent the wheel in terms of what we expect from a traditional company, they do shield us from the worst traits of modern corporations. It is through **Tribes** that we will empower our **Communities** with productive organizations that work for us instead of exploiting our nature for profit.

How Communities Earn LOVE

Communities need a steady stream of the cryptocurrency **LOVE** to power the **Modules** that make them work. This **LOVE** comes from four sources: fees collected from **Module** services, sponsorships, profit from shared assets, and the **Spirit Network** rewards pool.

Any **Module** that provides a paid service can be taxed to earn revenue for the **Community** that implements it. For example, a **Community** can earn **LOVE** by charging a fee for each ticket purchased through its **Events Directory Module**. These fees, like most **Module** parameters, are set by **Community** vote; every **Community** decides for themselves what tax-rates are appropriate.

Another source of **LOVE** is sponsorships. Users or organizations can sponsor a **Community** by contributing some amount of **LOVE** directly to it. While becoming a sponsor does not give you additional voting privileges, it can entitle you to rewards, recognition and titles within the **Community**.

Sponsoring a **Community** is the most effective way to support a passion. As it is now, in order to support the things you care about, you first need to identify those who do the relevant work. Even if you manage to find the right people, fees would take up a good chunk of what is donated to them. On the other hand, when sponsoring a **Community** you can be sure that 100% of what you put in will be spent according to the will of **Community** members as determined by the **Modules** they've installed.

Furthermore, as there is no direct advertising on **SpiritOS**, sponsorships are the best way individuals and organizations can reach a **Community** to promote their service or product. Organizations can use sponsorships to promote their services in a way that supports the **Community** they are soliciting.

Communities can also earn **LOVE** through profits generated by shared assets. Using the **Proposal Kickstarter**, **Communities** can build and collectively own and manage assets such as buildings, factories, software services, etc. Profits generated by shared assets will be returned to the **Community** to power its **Modules**.

Communities get the rest of the LOVE they need to power their Modules directly from the Spirit Network rewards pool, which comes from from a \$15/month Spirit Network subscription fee supplemented by a small amount of LOVE minted daily by the Spirit Network. While a subscription is not mandatory, as users can freely participate and earn LOVE on SpiritOS without being subscribed, one is required to cast Community votes of any kind.

Decentralized Decision Making

To use its **LOVE**, a **Community** must decide on which **Modules** to implement and what percentage of the total **LOVE** each **Module** should receive. This decision, and many others, are made collectively by the **Community** using the **Community HQ Module** which enables vote-enabled users to weigh in on **Community** issues.

In order to earn the right to vote and have a say in any **Community**, a user must subscribe to the **Spirit Network** and verify their identity through a process discussed in **Part II**. This verification process ensures that the account in question belongs to a distinct human being. Everyone can participate and even earn **LOVE**, but only confirmed humans who buy into the **Spirit Network** should have a say in where it is headed.

The Community HQ

While there are many **Modules** available to **Communities**, there is only one mandatory **Module** called the **Community HQ**. Without it, **Communities** would have no way of collectively making decisions.

Communities use the **Community HQ** to manage active **Modules**, set how much **LOVE** each **Module** should receive, elect leadership, and vote on general issues. Specifics on the voting processes and what issues are up for debate are provided in **Part II**.

The **Modules** available for **Communities** to choose from fall into two categories, basic and advanced. **Basic Modules** do not dramatically change the way we do things online, but instead borrow layouts and functionality from existing services, innovating on them with blockchain-enabled features. **Advanced Modules** on the other hand reinvent what we can do online.

Basic Modules

Modules vary in their complexity and purpose. The simplest mirror existing services and provide much of the same basic functionality found on other platforms, but even these differ in a couple of ways.

First, these services as they exist elsewhere are generally not backed by a cryptocurrency, which limits their ability to incentivize behaviors in comparison to a **SpiritOS Module**. While our **Content Feed** is at its base level a Reddit-clone, the fact that **LOVE** flows through it adds to it an underlying incentive model that pays contributors, supporting an ecosystem of content creators.

Secondly, these services are not all on the same platform. If you want to share content, plan events and have open-ended discussions you have to use multiple services. There is little to no overlap. By keeping these different kinds of applications on the same service and tying them to a specific **Community**, we make it many times easier for groups of people to leverage multiple tools at once to accomplish their goals.

Our basic **Modules** include the **Content Feed**, **Events Directory** and **Message Board**. Each provides some functionality augmented with **LOVE**. Fans of other community platforms should feel right at home with the suite of features offered by these three.

The Content Feed

Communities level-up their content by pumping LOVE through the Content Feed Module - a curated list of shared media content. The Content Feed borrows from the layout and general content-curation functionality popularized by Reddit, and improves it by implementing mechanisms that prevent upvote-abuse and reward participation with LOVE. Content Feeds also benefit from the fact that SpiritOS is, and will forever be, an ad-free and censorship-free platform.

A Superior Upvote Algorithm

A vote-curated list of content with loose controls over who gets to upvote can easily be manipulated to sway opinions. On Reddit anyone can create multiple accounts to upvote content. With enough resources, a bad actor can artificially control what is important on the platform and influence society at large.

On **SpiritOS**, only accounts belonging to actual human beings can upvote. Additionally, upvotes are weighted (see **Part II**) to ensure the most involved **Community** members have a greater say than those with limited interest. As a result of these restrictions, curated content on **SpiritOS** more accurately reflects the truth of what deserves attention as determined by actual **Community** members.

Rewarding Participation

LOVE pumped into the Content Feed is distributed to Community members proportional to their relative upvote totals for the day. Those who receive lots of upvotes on their posts will receive a larger portion of the **LOVE** flowing through the **Content Feed** than those who post less popular content. The more **LOVE** made available to the **Content Feed**, the greater the quantity and quality of content produced as an output.

The aforementioned restrictions on who can upvote content gives community members complete control over who should be rewarded - protecting this system from the abuse running rampant on other reward-enabled platforms like Steemit where power-users dominate the rewards ecosystem.

No Censorship or Advertisements

SpiritOS makes the thought-policing of technology platforms a thing of the past. While communities on **SpiritOS** can be censored for egregious violations, the process is completely decentralized with a series of checks and balances that make it prohibitively difficult for any single group to force a community off the network.

Similarly, **SpiritOS** stops corporations and other monied-interests from influencing humanity by being a platform that is forever free of advertising. This has the added effect of opening the door to superior layouts and algorithms that are focused on delivering value instead of ads. If corporations want recognition they can sponsor **Communities** directly or get involved via **Modules** like any other group our individual.

The Message Board

Communities install the **Message Board Module** for general, echochamber-resistant **Community** discussion. The primary purpose of the **Module** is to provide a place for honest discussion - while **LOVE** can be used to incentivize posting, this **Module** does not by default distribute **LOVE** to participants.

When content and conversations are organized by what is most upvoted, minority opinions have no chance of reaching a larger audience. Platforms like Reddit are littered with content that has been downvoted into obscurity despite being legitimate additions to the **Community**. By including an alternative way to communicate that gives all opinions an

equal shot at being heard, we will avoid the dangerous polarization between groups that is fueling the division in society today.

Posts in **Message Board** threads are ordered chronologically. Reading through a thread is to follow the train-of-thought of the **Community** consciousness on the subject being discussed. Contributors to these threads can be certain they will be heard. This style of conversation can oftentimes be far more engaging, especially when centered on live events in which posts quickly lose their importance.

The Events Directory

Communities direct **LOVE** into the **Events Directory Module** to enable exciting new experiences by organically funding the most popular **Community** events. That said, like most Modules, it provides valuable functionality even without a source of **LOVE**, in which case the **Events Directory** earns its place by enabling **Community** members to easily share, discover and discuss upcoming events.

It also provides event organizers with tools for ensuring **Community** events go off without a hitch such as ways to keep track of and communicate with attendees, collect donations, sell tickets and merchandise, solicit help from other community members, etc.

While all transactions on **SpiritOS** are feeless in that **SpiritOS** itself does not take a cut, **Communities** will be able to collect "fees" from **Modules** like the **Event Directory** that provide monetized services. Through such services, Communities are capable of earning revenue to power their **Modules**.

Advanced Modules

Unlike **Basic Modules**, **Advanced Modules** leverage the unique characteristics of the blockchain to do things that simply were not possible before. Through the **Hero Directory** online communities can effectively "hire" individuals and **Tribes** to do work on their behalf. Similarly, the **Proposal Kickstarter** reinvents crowdfunding by enabling us to collectively create, operate and own shared assets. **Advanced Modules** open the door to all sorts of new ways of organizing ourselves to accomplish greater things.

The Hero Directory

Communities can financially support their most valuable members by pumping **LOVE** through the **Hero Directory**. **Community** members looking to provide some service can sign up through this **Module** to be a **Community Hero**. **Heroes** are to **Communities**, what employees are to companies; it is through the **Hero Directory** that a **Community** can support a workforce.

The bulk of the free work done in the world is by fans who devote their time to supporting and promoting their passions. Those of us who share the cause, but do not have as strong a calling, can use the **Hero Directory Module** to identify and support men and women like the above who do feel compelled to throw themselves into advancing the cause of a **Community**. No matter what shape their contribution takes, moderators, organizers, teachers, experts, artists, etc, can all find support via the **Hero Directory**.

Like many **Modules**, the **Hero Directory** relies on input from vote-enabled **Community** members to determine who deserves the bulk of the **LOVE** flowing through it. Vote-enabled users will be able to browse the **Hero Directory** interface to find and upvote those who are doing the work most beneficial for the **Community**. The more **LOVE** pushed through a **Hero Directory**, the larger the dedicated **Community** workforce.

Community Heroes can be individuals or **Tribes** depending on the settings chosen by the **Community**. The **Hero Directory** is a flexible way for a **Community** to organically support those who contribute to it.

The Proposal Kickstarter

The **Proposal Kickstarter** gives **Communities** a way to pool resources to create and execute on projects in the real world via a feeless crowdfunding platform through which users can pitch and support community initiatives.

The Proposal Lifecycle

Both **Tribes** and individual vote-enabled **SpiritOS** users can at any time propose a new **Community** project. A **Community** project can be something as simple as creating a YouTube video or something as complex as purchasing land and building on it. Unlike other crowdfunding platforms, no fee is charged so 100% of the **LOVE** invested into a proposal is made available for use.

Every proposal specifies an amount to raise, the fundraising period, the project lifetime and the individual or **Tribe** that is in charge of making it happen. If a project raises the required amount within the fundraising period, the fundraising smart contract is executed dispersing the funds to the parties designated as the project leads. Otherwise the funds are returned to investors.

Project leads have complete discretion over how to use the raised funds once a proposal is approved unless terms are otherwise specified in the initial smart contract. It is important to give project leads leeway to accomplish their goals and not inundate them with overbearing **Community** oversight. Furthermore, by giving them discretion over the budget, we retain the profit motive - **Tribes** who complete proposals efficiently will be able to pocket the remaining funds.

Shared Community Assets

Many proposals involve the creation of a community-owned asset. Every such proposal must include a smart contract that codifies how members of the **Community** will interact with it. For instance, a proposal for a **Community** recreation center might require a smart contract which outlines hours of operation, daily rates for **Community** members who wish to use it, as well as an election process for hiring and firing **Tribes** to manage it.

Profit generated by shared assets will by default be added to the **Community** rewards pool, but can be designated towards any purpose if included in the initial smart contract.

A New Kind of Economy

Capital distributed through **Community** proposals are not profit-seeking in the traditional sense. Every proposal is born from the needs of a community and executed by a **Tribe** that is structured to prevent the gross human-rights abuses characteristic of public corporations.

Through **SpiritOS** we will have for the first time a system of capital distribution that doesn't exclusively seek returns, opening the door to build the things humanity needs that never made traditional economic sense to accomplish.

How It All Comes Together

The **Modules** of **SpiritOS** can be mixed and matched to create an endless variety of **Communities** and **Tribes**. These organizations, when powered by **LOVE**, will create new economies that direct our collective attention to the things that matter.

The roles in society created by **Communities** will be entirely new careers. Participating in the workforce will be synonymous with actively supporting **Communities** through **Modules** and earning **LOVE** in the process. We will work for each other, instead of for the banks and corporations that currently control our collective attention.

Small groups of us will band together in **Tribes** and earn profit in the service of our **Communities** instead of working for the ponzi scheme that is our current economic system. And in doing so we will usher in a new era of business where our leaders are accountable, fraud is impossible and employees are treated equitably.

Through **SpiritOS** we can promote the growth of the things that inspire us - transforming existing online forums, revitalizing local communities and creating entirely new ways of being in the world. Our collective attention and energy is too important to continue to be wasted on a system that does not care about us.

Empowering Existing Digital Communities

SpiritOS turns the online forums where we discuss our favorite interests into **Communities** that channel our shared energy to further support and promote our passions.

The most popular digital communities attract hundreds of thousands daily, but fail to capitalize on this massive amount of attention. Everyone has an innate interest in seeing the things they care about grow into something bigger and better - a forum that attracts so many people should be able to easily translate this human energy into support for the community and its contributing members.

Our collective energy should be put towards advancing larger objectives that change our reality. Discussing and sharing content is the most basic way we can pursue our passions, but conversation alone does relatively little advance them. By migrating to a **Community**, online forums will now have ways of pulling together to create experiences and develop projects that transform it into an organization that can accomplish even the most ambitious goals.

Because **Communities** can generate revenue through their **Modules** to fund contributors and participants, the leaders of these digital communities who migrate to **SpiritOS** will finally be compensated for the work they are putting in to grow their scene. Those who add value should be able to earn some income from the work they're doing. **SpiritOS** makes sure these heroes of the community are paid for the energy they spend on making their community better.

In order to facilitate the transition, **Modules** like the **Content Feed** provide these newly migrated **Communities** with all of the same functionality that they are already familiar with. No matter where the **Community** originated there's a **Module** that makes them feel at home. That said, unlike the first wave of blockchain digital community platforms like Steemit, DistrictOx and Narrative, **SpiritOS** moves beyond what is already possible by introducing new services that could not exist without blockchain technology.

On top of powering up what we're already doing online, **SpiritOS** fundamentally changes the game with **Modules** like the **Hero Directory** and the **Proposal Kickstarter**. The ability for online communities to own assets and easily compensate work done is entirely new in the context of what is possible on the internet. We look forward to seeing how existing **Communities** use these tools to grow into the major societal institutions they should be.

Restoring Our Local Communities

The isolating impact of technology and city living have eroded the sense of community for millions. People in your neighborhood might as well be in a different reality for how much interaction there is between us. In the same way digital communities need **SpiritOS** to have an impact in the real world, local communities need **SpiritOS** to reconnect online.

It was once the case that the vast majority of us lived in small towns in which we knew virtually everyone. The people you passed on the street were not nameless faces, but instead whole people. In these times, those with power were not so disconnected from those in need, in small communities when someone needs help people are quick to assist.

On top of the changes in population densities, we now have to contend with the availability of an endless variety of entertainment at our fingertips, which has many of us falling into the lonely existence that is spending the majority of our time looking into a screen. And while it's not completely the fault of technology companies who have created the conveniences that enable us to live our lives without interacting with other people - it

doesn't change the fact that we need software that reverses this trend and enables us to rediscover just how much better it is to be together.

SpiritOS does just that - it is the glue that will revitalize the local community. By representing your local area as a **SpiritOS Community** you will have created a place to discuss the issues that are important for residents that also facilitates and funds the activities necessary to keep your neighborhood connected, fun, secure, and pristine. It is through **SpiritOS Modules** we will inject **LOVE** into the extended families that are our local communities.

Using **Modules**, we can implement new kinds of services to improve the lives of those who live near us. Helping the homeless, connecting through events, providing for the poor, cleaning up the surrounding neighborhood, etc. All these and many more are possible by pumping **LOVE** through the right selection of **Modules**.

The New Artist Economy

SpiritOS provides infrastructure for a new artist ecosystem. Its **Modules** unlock ways to more organically compensate and empower the people who bring us the experiences that make our lives better.

SpiritOS Communities are the perfect place for fans of any kind of art. They provide enthusiasts, organizers and artists a place to come together to consume and produce memorable experiences. Using **Modules**, art-centric **Communities** can support a new class of artists with the resources they need to fully devote themselves to their creative work.

For instance, pairing the **Hero Module** and the **Events Module** provides **Communities** with a novel way of supporting large groups of artists. **Tribes** can promote and sell tickets to their events using a **Community's Events Module**, which in turn can charge a fee for each ticket sold to generate profit for the **Community**. These funds can then be filtered into a **Hero Directory Module** to create a base level of support for the artists and **Tribes** that **Community** members vote to support.

Artists will be able to make a better living by participating in **SpiritOS Communities**. Cutting out the middlemen like ticketing services that take huge cuts for rendering basic services will put more money in their pockets. Additionally, because there is no advertising on **SpiritOS**, smaller artists and those who support them will have just as much

a chance of getting attention as those belonging to big labels and media companies. If a **Community** likes what you make, you will get the attention you deserve.

Communities do a lot for artists, but it is through **Tribes** that smaller labels and artist collectives can really grow. This organization structure enables artists and the people who support them to easily plug into the **Communities** that love the art they're producing to earn the income they need. Furthermore, they will be able to use **Modules** to power-up their **Tribe** with a home on **SpiritOS** that includes forums, shops, distribution tools, etc, that facilitate the promotion and monetization of their art.

Lastly, by consolidating local artist collectives into **Communities** and **Tribes** we will be creating a new kind of artist union that increases their negotiating power with venues and vendors to ensure that the bulk of what is generated goes back to creating more quality art. It also will dramatically simplify the problem of connecting fans, organizers and artists, decreasing the costly friction that is preventing us from creating more accessible life-changing experiences.

Creating New Solutions

SpiritOS gives digital communities power in the real world, revitalizes our local neighborhoods, and unlocks the true potential of our artists. But that's only the tip of the iceberg.

There are an infinite number of potential **Modules** and ways to structure them. The **Modules** we will initially develop are those that have more general applications, but we expect individual **Communities** to eventually build their own to solve the needs specific to their interest.

To encourage the development of such **Modules** by third parties we will include a marketplace for **Modules** through which **Communities** can choose and install new **Modules** developed by third-party programmers. While there will be no cost to installing a **Module**, its creator can specify in its smart contract a fee to be collected from the **LOVE** that flows through it and the address which will receive said funds. Developers of popular **Modules** will make a fortune off the **Communities** that install their software.

We look forward to seeing what **Modules** are developed and how they will change the way the organizations that make up our reality function.

Moving Forward

Now that we have a high level overview of what is possible with **SpiritOS**, we will begin our low-level dive into the **Spirit Network** itself. In the process we will explain how the network of **Communities** that develop through **SpiritOS** will enable us to discern the truth of what is actually important to humanity.