

Research Report for Candidate Topics

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My dear teammates, we have now pinned down to two candidate topics for our blockchain-hkust project, which are automobile sharing and peer-to-peer house services. To proceed we need more information about both topics, and please formulate the info you collected into a report like this, so that we can discuss the ideas and build upon them efficiently. I will specify the coverage of materials I expect you to gather, as well as what discussion and proposal you should make, in the following sections.

1 Please do the following first

- Compose the report in a white-paper styled document, like this one.
- Feel free to extend and modify any part of the skeleton provided below.
- As there are 2 people in each subgroup of us, I suggest you take shifts to gather information, compose the report, and polish the report.

2 The description of the business

- Here, name the topic your are dealing with, name the basic entities(roles) involving in the business.
- Here, describe the procedure of how in general the business is done. List the steps. In each step, please highlight:
 - The entities involved.
 - All important information needed to be kept down as a record.
 - Any act of authentication or commitment, for example signing a contract or signing for acknowledging reception.

3 The problems with current solution

Ask and discuss the following questions.

- In each step listed in section 2, whose benefit and right might be compromised?
- What does users concerns most?

4 The need of a blockchain solution

- In each problem listed in section 3, please propose a possible solution to the problem if any. Can blockchain help with the solution?
- In each step listed in section 2, can the current way of doing the business be more efficient? Can block chain help?