

February 4, 2020

To whom it may concern

Sumitomo Mitsui Trust Holdings, Inc.

Notice regarding Commencement of Proof of Concept with the aim of establishing expedited inheritance related services with other financial institutions for better client services by our subsidiary

Please be informed that Sumitomo Mitsui Trust Bank, Ltd., a subsidiary of Sumitomo Mitsui Trust Holdings, Inc. today announced the attached press release.

For further information, please contact:

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February 4, 2020

To whom it may concern,

Sumitomo Mitsui Trust Bank, Ltd.

Notice regarding Commencement of Proof of Concept with the aim of establishing expedited inheritance related services with other financial institutions for better client services

Sumitomo Mitsui Trust Bank, Limited (President: Masaru Hashimoto, hereinafter “SuMi TRUST Bank”) has been pursuing many initiatives to establish a trust business platforms, unique to a trust bank, in order to create new value for our clients.

As one of these initiatives, SuMi TRUST Bank hereby announces the commencement of Proof of Concept (hereinafter “PoC”) of utilizing Blockchain, in the area of inheritance related services. SuMi TRUST bank shall endeavor to collaborate with other firms in the financial industry (*1), in order to expedite and rationalize complex procedures such as ownership transfer to heirs, which is often requested by our clients.

(*1) To commence this PoC, SuMi TRUST Bank will collaborate with other banks, trust banks and securities companies

1. Background

As we enter an aging-society in Japan and the “great inheritance era,” in which several million households will experience inheritance, there are estimates that assets worth approximately 1,000 trillion yen would be subject to inheritance procedures.

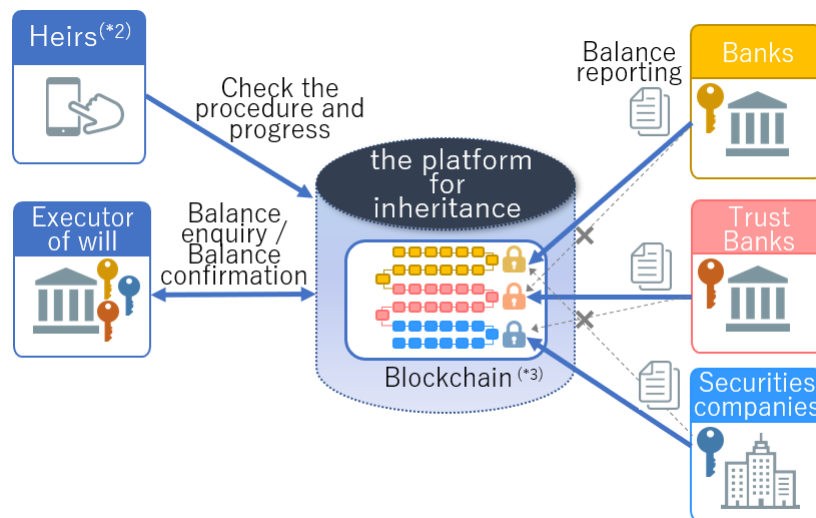
After the inheritance event, financial firms often conduct ownership transfer and cash conversion procedure for inheritees’ deposits and securities. In the process of traditional inheritance related services, stacks of paper-based documents such as transcript of family register and certificate of personal seal-impresion are required. The burden of managing the paper-based documents tends to be heavy on both clients and financial firms, and it could take several months in some cases.

With the arrival of the era of the “100-year life”, realizing smooth asset-transfer to the next generation through reducing burden and expediting the process of inheritance is becoming a social agenda. SuMi TRUST Bank has conducted in-house PoC since August 2019 to build the inaugural platform for inheritance related services in Japan, that enables safe and quick inheritance processing for all our clients. Since SuMi TRUST Bank validated the effectiveness of Blockchain for managing documents with high transparency and also confirmed that digitalization could reduce the processing time through the in-house PoC, we have decided to move forward to this PoC with other cooperative

firms to realize this platform (hereinafter “participants”).

2. Purpose and outline of PoC

In this PoC, among inheritance related services, SuMi TRUST Bank and participants will verify whether we can perform the series of operations such as will execution and issuance and confirmation of balance certification on this platform by digitizing and sharing the required documents, thereby shortening the processing time.

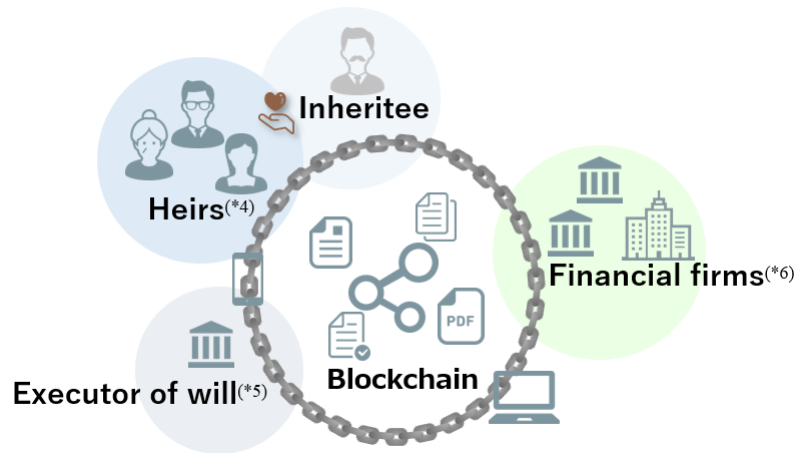


(*2) In this PoC, SuMi TRUST Bank and participants will operate the procedure on smartphones and confirm screen output instead of actual heirs

(*3) SuMi TRUST Bank and participants will utilize Blockchain to ensure privacy-protection and tamper-resistance of documents

3. Future outlook

In will execution, it is necessary to mail a large number of documents between financial firms at this moment. By building this platform, SuMi TRUST and participants aims to make the financial firms' administrative operation more efficient and to offer new value to our clients, by significantly shortening the processing time.



(*4) Heirs can prepare for inheritance tax payment with a longer lead time, and feel secure from transparent processes

(*5) Banks who conduct the will execution can shorten the processing time and reduce the risk of falsification of documents

(*6) Financial firms can abolish mailing and shorten processing time by paper-less operation.

In the era of the “100-year life”, SuMi TRUST Bank believes the needs of both corporates and individuals will diversify further. SuMi TRUST Bank will work to provide new value to our clients by utilizing our diverse functions within our trust bank group and offer services unique to trust business and encourage our clients to live a safe, secure and brighter life.

End

(Attached sheet)

Cooperative financial firms in this PoC are as follows. (Japanese Alphabetical order)

The Bank of Kyoto, Ltd.

The Gunma Bank, Ltd.

The Bank of Nagoya, Ltd.

Mizuho Bank, Ltd.

Sumitomo Mitsui Banking Corporation

Resona Bank, Ltd.

SMBC Trust Bank Ltd.

Nomura Securities Co., Ltd.

Matsui Securities Co., Ltd.

Mizuho Trust & Banking Co., Ltd.

Mizuho Securities Co., Ltd.

Sumitomo Mitsui Trust Bank, Ltd.

Mitsubishi UFJ Trust and Banking Corporation

SMBC Nikko Securities Inc.