Blockchain Technology Partners and Digital Asset join forces to launch Sextant for DAML

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Blockchain and nanotechnology meet as the blockchain startup and the creator of the DAML smart-contract language have partnered to launch a new commercial offering, Sextant for DAML. Their first early adopter is leveraging the product for a nanotechnology-based authenticity and traceability platform.

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Introduction

Edinburgh-based Blockchain startup Blockchain Technology Partners (BTP) and Digital Asset (DA), creator of the DAML smart contract language, have partnered to launch a new commercial offering, Sextant for DAML. They have already enrolled an early adopter, nanotechnology firm Quantum Materials.

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Sextant for DAML seeks to remedy blockchain-related enterprise pain points such as infrastructure complexity, usability and skills gaps. We see DAML facilitating the coding of complex business processes (focusing on business logic rather than coding) while Sextant takes care of automation and operations (focusing on business value rather than infrastructure) – this combination makes sense. Revealing and sharing real metrics and insights in terms of value gained from the 'nanotechnology meets blockchain' implementation should help Blockchain Technology Partners and Digital Asset spur further interest and accelerate wider adoption.

Details

In April, Blockchain Technology Partners and New York City-based Digital Asset announced the integration of the DAML smart-contract language with BTP's blockchain management platform, Sextant, which provides operational tooling for the permissioned Hyperledger Sawtooth blockchain protocol – an endeavor that resulted in the co-launch of a commercial offering, Sextant for DAML. The DAML language, the environment in which it runs, and supporting developer tooling were open-sourced earlier this year so that developers could start working with it and incorporate DAML into other technologies. To facilitate its integration into third-party blockchain and distributed ledger technology (DLT), as well as more traditional databases, DA has created and released the DAML Integration Kit.

Cloud-native blockchain management platform Sextant was made available last year as a one-click deployment on the AWS Marketplace for Containers, with plans to support multiple clouds as well as hybrid environments using container-orchestration software Kubernetes. Sextant for DAML, which is also available on the AWS Marketplace, now delivers a one-click deployment of DAML on Hyperledger Sawtooth – with support for multi-cloud and hybrid environments – and cloud storage engine Amazon Aurora.

Early adopter Quantum Materials is leveraging Sextant for DAML for a nanotechnology-based authenticity and traceability platform that seeks to fight counterfeiting and build brand trust and reputation. Asset traceability in supply chains is a primary use case for blockchain technology (see Figure 1) that has been attracting substantial attention across industries, with businesses reporting significant cost savings by being able to seize counterfeit products before those get to the customer.

In Quantum Materials' case, nanotechnology meets blockchain. The San Marcos, Texas-based firm creates quantum dots (nanoscale semiconductor particles) that emit wavelengths of light when energy is applied to them, creating unique optical signatures. These signatures can serve as unique identifiers for any physical item. When a quantum dot signature of a product is scanned, a digital twin is created that can be stored and traced on a distributed ledger. Ultimately, authenticity of any product carrying a quantum dot can be guaranteed when manufactured and through its entire supply-chain journey by employing DLT.

Figure 1: Primary use cases for blockchain/DLT

Source: 451 Research's Voice of the Enterprise: Data and Analytics, Workloads and Adoption Patterns 2019

Q: Which of the following are primary use cases for blockchain/distributed ledger technology at your organization?

Use case	%
Asset/product 'track and trace' to provide data provenance and integrity	51%
Trusted sharing and reconciliation of data within networks	48%
Asset transfer and monetization	48%
Digital identity and certified claims	48%
Risk management and legal/regulatory compliance	44%
Other	5%

% of respondents (n=84)