

SBI Digital Asset Holdings Announces its Strategic Investment in Sygnum Bank AG to Further Enhance Digital Asset Ecosystem

Tokyo, Japan : February 18, 2021 - SBI Digital Asset Holdings (“SBI DAH”), the digital asset arm of the SBI Group, announces its investment in **Sygnum Bank AG** (“Sygnum”), the world’s first digital asset bank. This further strengthens the strategic partnership that was established with the SBI-Sygnum Digital Asset Opportunity Fund - announced in October this year - with **SBI Ven Capital** which targets early-stage investment in digital asset start-ups located in Europe and Southeast Asia.

The strategic partnership with Sygnum helps to strengthen SBI Group’s capabilities in the Security Token Offering (STO) space and more broadly in the digital asset space. SBI Group is a member of the Japan Security Token Offering Association (JSTOA) and in October 2020 issued tokenized shares of SBI e-Sports, a subsidiary of SBI Holdings.

Sygnum’s recent tokenization of its own shares, a world’s first for a bank, lays the foundation for a potential future public offering. The tokenization of its own shares was done through Desygnate, Sygnum’s new STO issuance platform which provides clients access to an end-to-end digital asset management solution with global standards of convenience and security.

This investment strengthens SBI DAH’s trusted ecosystem and further fulfils its goal to bring liquidity and worldwide accessibility of digital assets to clients. “The design of our digital capital markets ecosystem revolves around 4 structural layers: foundational, service, liquidity, and advisory. We look forward to Sygnum being an active partner in all 4 layers to create synergies with other partner companies within SBI Digital Asset Holdings’ ecosystem” said **Marc Robinson, SBI Digital Asset Holdings COO**.

“We are honoured to welcome SBI Group as a trusted Sygnum shareholder and strategic partner,” said **Mathias Imbach, Sygnum Bank AG Co-Founder & Group CEO**. “2020 saw digital assets receive a global surge in interest from institutional investors and financial institutions. Together with SBI’s deep and longstanding expertise in fintech and digital assets, we look forward to meeting the rising demand coming from Switzerland, Singapore and globally, and providing our clients with unique investment opportunities, empowering them to diversify into the emerging digital assets economy with complete trust,” he added.

SBI Holdings CEO & SBI Digital Asset Holdings Chairman, Yoshitaka Kitao, said: “We believe in the potential that digital assets and security tokens bring to investors and financial institutions. One of SBI’s growth strategies revolves around building a vibrant global ecosystem for the digital asset economy, and we are pleased to have Sygnum – with its digital product offering and expertise in Europe and Asia – as a strategic partner in this journey.

“Regulated banking platforms will play an essential role in meeting the growing wave of institutional adoption for digital assets,” said **Fernando Luis Vasquez Cao, SBI Digital Asset Holdings CEO**. “As a regulated and professional digital asset specialist, Sygnum is the right partner to help us deliver on our vision to make this asset class more trusted,” he added.

“We are humbled by the positive feedback we have received from our clients and stakeholders for our regulated suite of products and services,” said **Gerald Goh, Sygnum Co-Founder and CEO Singapore**. “With this strong start to 2021, we look forward to working with our stakeholders to continue innovating new solutions, launching new products, and ultimately providing our clients the ability to participate in the fast-growing digital assets opportunity in a safe, convenient, and fully-regulated manner.”

About SBI Digital Asset Holdings Co., Ltd. and the SBI Group

SBI Digital Assets Holdings is the digital assets umbrella company of SBI Holdings, Inc and oversees and operates digital asset-related businesses. The company has investments into key portfolio companies including BRD, Boerse Stuttgart Digital Exchange, Sepior, Everspin and Tangem among others. SBI Digital Asset Holdings endeavors to bring innovation to the financial industry by building an ecosystem for issuance, custody, management, and liquidity for digital assets. SBI Digital Asset Holdings, via SBI group companies, has strong links with other group investments such as Ripple, R3, B2C2, Securitize, Boosty and has inroads to banking and securities infrastructure across Asia with businesses in Thailand, South Korea, Hong Kong, Malaysia and Cambodia. SBI DAH has made significant inroads into building a trusted institutional grade global digital asset ecosystem. Recently, the company announced its plans for a joint Singapore based digital asset exchange with the SIX Group, and the integration of sbiwallet, a state-of-the-art institutional grade wallet solution, with Securitize in Japan.

The SBI Group is a leading global internet-based financial conglomerate. The SBI Group’s core businesses include Financial Services Business, Asset Management Business and Biotechnology-related Business. In addition, it is one of the largest Japanese private equity firms and leverages its extensive eco-system to further drive the value of its investments. Please visit www.sbidah.com and www.sbigroup.com for more information.

About Sygnum Group

Sygnum is the world’s first digital asset bank, and a digital asset specialist with global reach. With Sygnum Bank AG’s Swiss banking licence, as well as Sygnum Pte. Ltd.’s capital markets services (CMS) licence in Singapore, Sygnum empowers institutional and private qualified investors, corporates, banks and other financial institutions to invest in the digital asset economy with complete trust. Sygnum operates an independently controlled, scalable and future-proof regulated banking platform. Our interdisciplinary team of banking, investment and Distributed Ledger Technology (DLT) experts is shaping the development of a trusted digital asset ecosystem. The company is founded on Swiss and Singapore heritage, and operates globally. Please visit www.sygnum.com for more information.

For more information, or to arrange an interview, please contact the following:

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