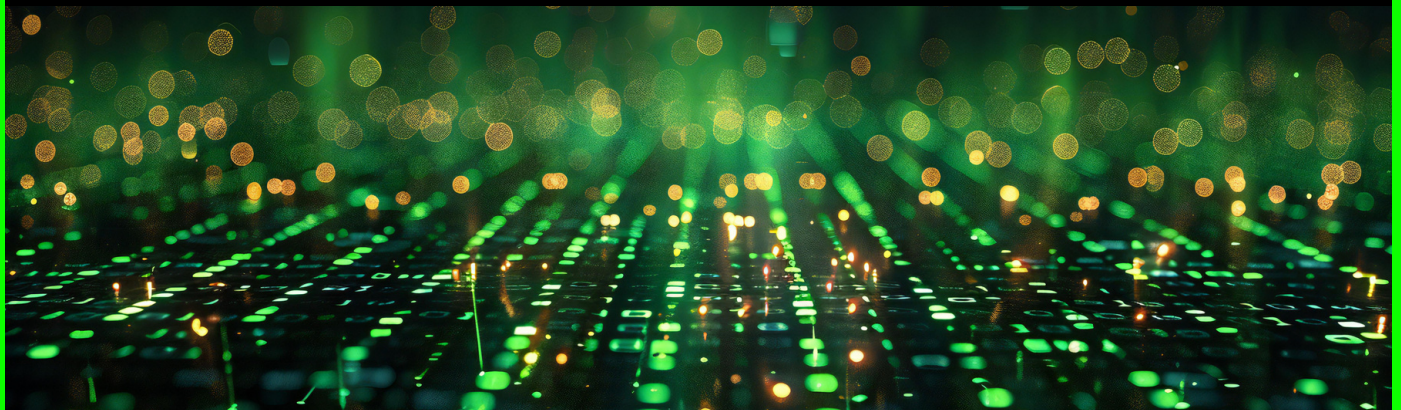


15 January 2025



Welcome to Scale Compliance's

NEWSLETTER

 **How Dubai Is Setting a New Standard for Blockchain Security** Dubai continues to lead the way in blockchain innovation with its latest move to enhance security.

In a landmark partnership, the Dubai Police and Crystal Blockchain Intelligence have signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to combat digital asset crimes more effectively. This initiative is not just about enforcement — it's a forward-thinking approach to creating a safe and thriving blockchain ecosystem.

Proactive Tools to Fight Digital Asset Crimes

The partnership leverages advanced tools to address crimes like money laundering, fraud, and ransomware:

- **Predictive Frameworks:** Using data analytics to identify risks before they escalate.
- **Transaction Monitoring:** Crystal Intelligence's tools analyze blockchain transactions to detect suspicious activity.
- **Risk Management:** Strengthening security profiles to protect the ecosystem from vulnerabilities.

According to recent data, [Crystal Intelligence](#) has tracked over \$16 billion in illicit transactions in crypto since 2017, highlighting the importance of robust monitoring systems.

Aligned with VARA's Vision

The initiative supports the goals of Dubai's [Virtual Assets Regulatory Authority \(VARA\)](#), the world's first dedicated virtual asset regulator. VARA sets clear guidelines for crypto businesses operating in Dubai, ensuring innovation and security coexist.

With VARA's framework, Dubai is creating a transparent, compliant environment for blockchain companies and investors, making it a global pioneer in regulating virtual assets.

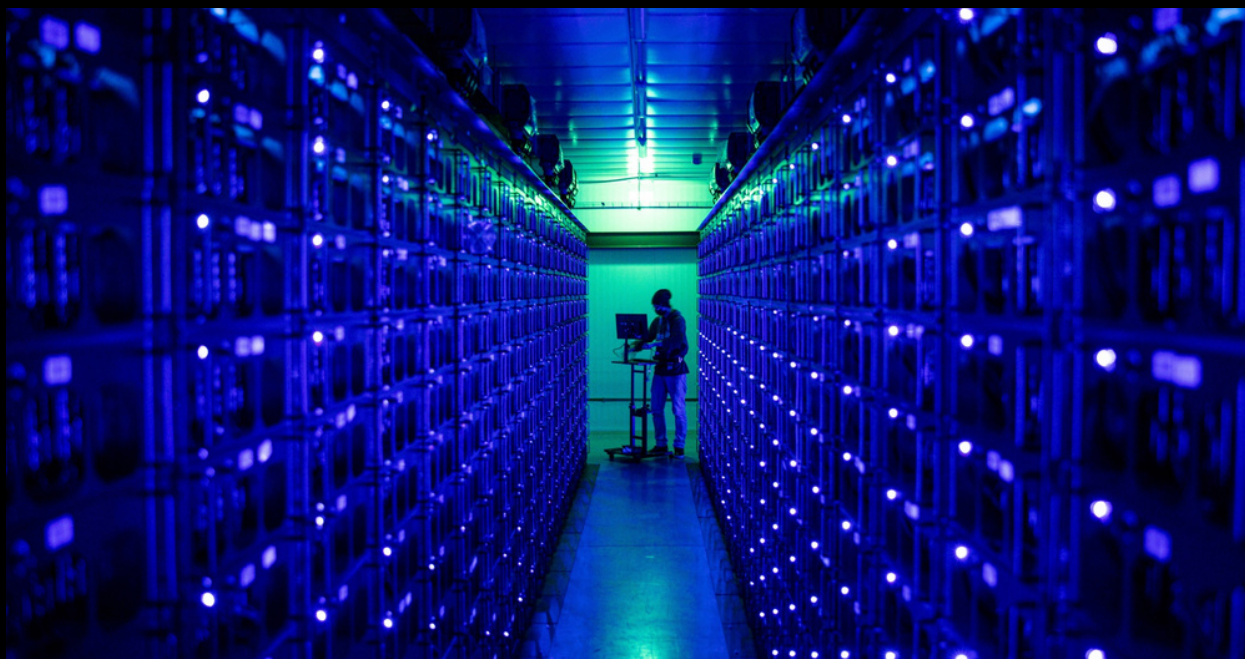
Setting a Global Example

Dubai's model is fast becoming a benchmark for other countries:

- **Public-Private Collaboration:** The Dubai Police and Crystal Intelligence partnership is a prime example of combining regulatory and technical expertise.
- **Global Impact:** By 2025, Dubai aims to secure its position as a global leader in blockchain and virtual asset regulation.

The city's balanced approach fosters innovation while maintaining a strong stance against illicit activities—a vital step as the global crypto market is projected to grow to \$5 trillion by 2030.

Laundering Through Mining Pools: Tactics Exposed



A recent [Chainalysis](#) report reveals how hackers are increasingly using crypto mining pools to launder ransomware funds. By blending stolen funds with legitimate mining rewards, bad actors are making illicit transactions harder to trace, posing significant challenges to crypto compliance.

How It Works

Hackers funnel ransomware payouts into mining pools, which act as mixers. These pools blend the stolen funds with legitimate mining earnings, making it appear as if the funds are just mining rewards. The "cleaned" funds are then sent to mainstream exchange wallets, bypassing compliance checks.

The Scale of the Problem

Since 2018, more than \$158 million has been funneled through this method, with ransomware funds blending into mining pools and ending up in exchange wallets. This practice has become a growing trend, with millions laundered every year through mining pools.

Why Mining Pools?

Mining pools are increasingly targeted because they act as mixers, obscuring the origin of the funds. This makes it difficult for compliance systems to detect illicit activity, allowing hackers to bypass traditional tracking methods.

A Real-World Example

One deposit address received:

- \$19.1M from ransomware wallets
- \$14.1M from mining pools

This highlights how effectively hackers are using mining pools to mask illicit funds and move them into mainstream markets.

What Needs to Change?

To combat this growing issue, mining pools must adopt stronger measures, such as:

- Better Wallet Screening
- Stronger Know Your Customer (KYC) Practices

These steps are essential in closing the loopholes hackers exploit.

The Bigger Picture

Without proper action, laundering through mining pools erodes trust and transparency in the crypto market. As the industry matures, it is critical that businesses and regulators act swiftly to prevent these tactics from undermining crypto security.

BitOasis Secures Full Crypto License in Dubai: A Major Milestone



Dubai-based [BitOasis](#), now part of India's [CoinDCX DeFi](#), has secured a full VASP license from Dubai's Virtual Assets Regulatory Authority (VARA), marking a significant milestone in the region's crypto landscape.

What This Means for BitOasis

This license grants BitOasis the ability to provide enhanced crypto services within Dubai, including:

- Expanded Services: Offering a broader range of digital asset services, including trading, custody, and more.
- Regulatory Compliance: Operating within a regulated environment ensures higher levels of trust for users and investors.
- Global Growth: With the backing of CoinDCX, BitOasis is poised to expand its influence in the MENA region and beyond.

Impact on the MENA Region

BitOasis' licensing represents a major step for Dubai in its goal to become a global hub for cryptocurrency and blockchain innovation. The full license is aligned with VARA's commitment to establishing a safe and secure environment for virtual assets, fostering growth, and attracting global crypto businesses to the region.

Why It Matters

This milestone brings legitimacy and confidence to the MENA crypto space. As the first licensed platform of its kind in Dubai, BitOasis will likely pave the way for more companies to seek regulatory approval in the region, setting a strong precedent for the future of crypto regulation globally.

With VARA's full license in hand, BitOasis is now positioned for significant growth in the regulated crypto ecosystem. This is a huge win for the Dubai crypto market, highlighting the city's role as a global leader in blockchain and digital asset regulation.

BitOasis Secures Full Crypto License in Dubai: A Major Milestone



Since July 2025, Coinbase has integrated [Apple Pay®](#) for instant fiat-to-crypto purchases, transforming the way users buy crypto. This partnership is a game-changer for accessibility and speed in the digital asset space.

What This Means for Users and Businesses

This integration provides key benefits:

- **Streamlined Transactions:** With Apple Pay®, users can quickly convert fiat into crypto, reducing transaction friction.
- **Built-in Compliance:** Apple Pay® ensures secure, traceable payments, aligning with global regulatory standards, making it easier for compliance-focused businesses to operate.
- **Scalable Solutions:** Businesses can simplify onboarding while meeting the necessary compliance requirements, expanding their global reach.

Why It's a Game-Changer for Crypto

For businesses scaling globally, this partnership removes barriers to entry by enabling quick, secure transactions without compromising on compliance. This move represents a major leap forward in the integration of fintech convenience with blockchain technology.

The Bigger Picture

This collaboration between Coinbase and Apple Pay® offers a clear example of how fintech innovation and regulatory compliance can coexist, creating a seamless experience for users while ensuring businesses stay within legal boundaries. It is a key step towards mainstream crypto adoption.

By simplifying the fiat-to-crypto process and ensuring regulatory compliance, Coinbase and Apple Pay® are setting the stage for broader crypto adoption while supporting businesses that prioritize security and scalability.



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