KEY CONSIDERATIONS FOR [CORPORATE INVESTMENT IN BITCOIN][REDACTED]

MicroStrategy 2020



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[Redacted]

I. BUSINESS STRATEGY AND GOVERNANCE

A. Priority considerations

- 1. Rationale for investing in BTC
- 2. Change in investment risk-reward considerations in holding BTC vs. cashequivalents
- 3. Business and strategy narrative, which will impact customer, investor, and employee perception of MSTR (see below for additional related points)
- 4. Potential negative impacts on stock price and increased stock price volatility
- 5. Accounting treatment and impact on reported corporate earnings
 - a) Impairment testing if BTC is treated as indefinite-lived intangible asset
 - b) Potential inability to reverse previously-recorded impairment losses

B. Other important considerations

- 1. Significant allocation to BTC deviates from approaches of typical publicly-traded companies
- 2. [Redacted]
- 3. Risk of theft/fraud losses greater due to irreversibility and near-anonymity of BTC transactions
- 4. Tax impacts

II. RISK MANAGEMENT

A. Priority considerations

- 1. BTC investment management policy
 - a) Guardrails to mitigate risk of inadvertently conducting regulated activity (e.g., under money transmitter laws, commodity laws, and securities laws)
 - b) Authorized persons for conducting transactions
 - c) Vendor (i.e., exchange/custodian) management and standards
 - d) Board/management approval thresholds for transactions
- 2. Hedging of BTC investment exposure through derivative instruments

B. Other important considerations

- 1. Insurance to protect against loss of BTC (if not available directly through custodian, as noted below)
- 2. Treatment of BTC under the Uniform Commercial Code, especially if lending of custodied BTC (akin to securities lending) is contemplated

III. DISCLOSURE MATTERS

A. Priority considerations

- 1. Financial statement impacts
- 2. Critical accounting policies
 - a) Determination of fair value
 - b) Periodic revaluation of BTC investment
- 3. Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition
 - a) Discussion of impact of BTC valuation on quarterly results
 - b) Liquidity and capital resources discussion

B. Other important considerations

- 1. Quantitative and Qualitative Disclosures About Market Risk
 - a) Disclosure of impact on earnings of hypothetical increase or decrease in BTC market value
- 2. Risk Factors
 - a) Regulatory risk and related controls
 - b) BTC, stock, and earnings volatility
 - c) Risk of theft and fraud loss
 - d) Lack of diversification risk
 - e) Potential loss of liquidity in BTC

IV. EXECUTION OF BTC INVESTMENTS

A. Priority considerations

- 1. Establish custody and storage solutions
 - a) Engage a U.S. based "qualified custodian," which will be a fiduciary under applicable banking regulations. Qualified custodians include [*Redacted*].
 - b) Consider multiple custodial accounts for diversification, and assess limits of insurance on deposits with custodian
- 2. Establish partnership (as needed) with broker for executing BTC transactions
 - a) For very large transactions, consider engaging a broker that specializes in large BTC transactions to optimize pricing. These include [*Redacted*].
 - b) Some custodians also have affiliated trade execution platforms (e.g., [*Redacted*]), which could also be used and may be able to lessen trading times
 - c) Confirm that broker does not conduct transactions in a way that may cause derivative contract recharacterization risk

B. Other important considerations

- 1. Determine method(s) of BTC storage and allocation between methods
 - a) Choice between "hot wallets" (online) or "cold storage" (offline/physical vault); custodians typically offer a combination of both to customers
 - b) Hot wallets (online) offer easier liquidity, but are more at risk for theft. Cold storage (offline/physical vault) renders keys inaccessible to theft, but slows access times for trades.
 - c) Likely best to maximize holdings in cold storage, which is the optimal approach for "buy/hold" investor (i.e., not active trader) and would be better for any risk disclosures
 - d) For cold storage, confirm withdrawal timeframes with custodian for purposes of assessing liquidity risk
- 2. Negotiate fees
 - a) Initial setup fee, a percentage of assets under custody, and transaction fees for purchases/sales of BTC
 - b) Fees may be negotiable given amounts of assets to be held with a given custodian and/or size of transaction to be conducted
- 3. Negotiate contractual protections and ancillary services
 - a) Custodian should offer independent storage and best-in-class security systems used to hold large quantities of cryptocurrency and make strong contractual reps regarding security
 - b) Confirm whether insurance is available as a built-in or supplemental product
 - c) If ability to lend custodied BTC is desired (which may provide additional revenue), consider a custodian that offers a lending service ancillary to digital assetcustody
 - d) Confirm whether custodian allows withdrawals of BTC to another custodian if desired, or if assets must be "cashed out"
 - e) Confirm how custodian will treat BTC forks and airdrops under contract