

September 2024 Investor Update

ProChain Capital increased in value **+8.09%** in September. **Year-to-date**, ProChain has gained **+21.65%**.

ProChain in the News

Trump vs. Harris: What the Election Results Mean for Crypto; CoinDesk, Sept 25

US port strikes could have 'substantial' impact on markets, consumers; Fox Business News, Sept 27

You can hear David Tawil (@DavidDTawil) on X (Twitter) daily at 8am ET.

He is the co-host of #FinanceDaily, the most listened-to live daily finance program on X.

1. Adoption

Investment.

- The SEC <u>approved Nasdaq's application to list spot Bitcoin ETF options</u>—specifically BlackRock's IBIT
 - o *ProChain-* In summary, this is very important because:
 - Bitcoin ETF options will set free Bitcoin-based and Bitcoin-denominated products, which will no longer be absolutely tethered to the constraints of Bitcoin's capped supply. Think, fractional reserve banking.
 - With protection from the Office of the Comptroller of the Currency (OCC), previously skittish investors will have their concerns about counterparty risk solved.
 - Investors will be able to speculate on the long-term price of Bitcoin without having to hold a cash position for a long time and sustain considerable volatility along the way.
- Tokenized shares in money-market funds, such as those issued by BlackRock and Franklin
 Templeton, are getting closer to being approved for use as collateral in trading.
 - o *ProChain* This added use, which is *de facto* for non-tokenized funds, would add to the reasons for increased use of securities' tokenization.

Currency and Use.

- PayPal (PYPL) <u>used its proprietary stablecoin (PYUSD) to pay an invoice</u> from Ernst & Young via the payment platform, SAP. Proof of concept.
- In contrast to BlackRock's use of the Ethereum blockchain for tokenization of its money-market fund BUIDL, Franklin Templeton is <u>building its own tokenized fund using the Solana blockchain</u>, prioritizing transaction speed.
- Guggenheim Capital has issued digital commercial paper using Ethereum.
- After years of research, the **Bank of Canada** has <u>decided against an immediate initiative for a Central Bank Digital Currency (CBDC)</u>.

- ProChain- We continue to believe that no country that holds sacred personal freedoms
 of speech and privacy will ever adopt a CBDC, which would be seen as a direct attack on
 those freedoms, to say nothing about the security concerns.
- An **Ohio** State senator has proposed allowing **Bitcoin** to be used to pay state and local taxes.

2. Regulation and Legal

- Despite recent progress for the crypto industry in Congress and in courts, the air with the
 SEC seems to have never been more polluted
 - The SEC has appealed its loss in the Ripple (XRP) securities case, which held that Ripple's
 programmatic sales to retail exchanges did not constitute a "securities" violation.
 - The SEC's head of enforcement, Gurbir Grewal, <u>has stepped down</u>.
 - The Third Circuit Court of Appeals, in the SEC's case against Coinbase (COIN), was
 flummoxed when the SEC's attorney refused to clarify the SEC's views Bitcoin and
 Ethereum as commodities. The attorney insisted that such determinations still had to be
 made on a case-by-case basis.
 - Crypto.com has gone on the offensive and <u>sued the SEC</u>, after previously receiving a Wells notice.
- **Telegram** announced that it had <u>changed its terms of service</u> in order to deter criminals from using the service.
 - Previously, Pavel Durov, the CEO of Telegram, issuer of the TON token, was arrested in France over allegations that the app facilitated criminal activities.
- Newly uncovered information suggests that the Biden Administration targeted Silvergate
 Bank in March 2023 over its ties to the crypto industry and sought to shut it down, regardless of
 the required pressure or tactics.

3. Public Companies

- MicroStrategy (MSTR) contiinued its Bitcoin purchases, holding a total of \$14B of Bitcoin.
- PayPal (PYPL) has enabled business/corporate accounts for crypto buying and selling.
- Visa (V) is launching a platform that will equip banks to issue their won USD-backed stablecoin.
 - ProChain- The impact of the initiatives from PayPal and Visa could be massive. PayPal is making small-business treasury crypto investment/holding simple, which could grease the crypto-wheels even more and encourage small businesses to invest in crypto. Visa's platform could bolster the on-ramps for crypto markets; stablecoins facilitate the entry of fiat currency into the crypto market.



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