

# **The Bitfury Group and Government of Republic of Georgia Expand Historic Blockchain Land-Titling Project**

***Land-Titling Project will Extend to Other Government Departments and Increase Blockchain Capabilities for Georgian Citizens***  
***ONGOING SUCCESS OF THE BLOCKCHAIN TRUST ACCELERATOR***

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**TBILISI, REPUBLIC OF GEORGIA – FEBRUARY 7, 2016** – The Bitfury Group, the world’s largest full service Blockchain technology company and co-creator of the Blockchain Trust Accelerator, announced today that the cutting-edge Blockchain land-titling project it is building with the Republic of Georgia’s National Agency of Public Registry (NAPR) is successfully progressing and will continue to advance in 2017. Thanks to this success, Bitfury and NAPR have also signed a new Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) to expand its groundbreaking Blockchain technology solutions to other government departments.

The Republic of Georgia was named by the World Bank in its [“Doing Business” survey](#) as one of the top three countries for ease of property registration, as well as a top 20 country for ease of conducting business, due to its transparent and user-friendly property and business registration systems.

“The Bitfury Group is moving full speed ahead with the innovative government of the Republic of Georgia to advance the creation of Blockchain technology pilot projects, including our Blockchain land-titling project with the National Agency of Public Registry,” said Valery Vavilov, CEO of The Bitfury Group. “With this technology, where there is a will, there is a way. And thanks to the forward-looking Georgian government, there is a will. The possibilities for trusted solutions are limitless, and the land-titling project is the first of many creative solutions projects we are developing in concert with the Republic of Georgia and the Blockchain Trust Accelerator to better serve its citizens.”

Tea Tsulukiani, Georgia’s Minister of Justice, said that the Ministry of Justice of Georgia is “the leading ministry in the field of new technologies in terms of e-government, together with two other colleague ministries.” “We will be able to work with Blockchain technology from this summer [to] place real estate extracts in a totally safe and innovative system,” Tsulukiani said.

Papuna Ugrehelidze, chairman of the National Agency of Public Registry in Georgia, said his department is “very pleased with the technical progress and looks forward to continuing [their] fruitful collaboration.” “Blockchain technology is the solution for the 21<sup>st</sup> century, and is its most secure and innovative system,” Ugrehelidze said.

Hernando de Soto, one of the world's leading economists and an advisor and supporter of the Georgia land-titling project, said that "by pioneering Blockchain technology, we bring the systems that 5 billion people use into the global economy."

"I have dedicated my life to improving access to capital, and our work in the Republic of Georgia is the first in a series of many important steps to bringing corruption-proof digital systems to all," de Soto said.

### **KEY BACKGROUND ON LAND TITLING AND FUTURE PROJECTS:**

In April 2016, The Bitfury Group announced that it signed an agreement with NAPR to pilot the first Blockchain land-titling registry in the Republic of Georgia. The Bitfury Group and NAPR successfully implemented a custom-designed Blockchain system that is now integrated into the digital records system of NAPR. This private, permissioned Blockchain is anchored to the Bitcoin Blockchain through a **distributed digital timestamping service**. Distributed digital timestamping allows NAPR to verify and sign a document containing a citizen's essential information and proof of ownership of property.

This important timestamping service also allows citizens to ensure their documents are legitimate without exposing confidential information. This is possible by providing citizens with unique documentation known as a "hash." This document hash is published to the Bitcoin Blockchain and can be verified whenever a request is made, benefiting from the Bitcoin Blockchain's unmatched security.

This groundbreaking project will continue to advance to include **smart-contract capabilities** to streamline business operations for NAPR, including the sale of property, transfer of ownership and more.

### **ABOUT BLOCKCHAIN TECHNOLOGY AND LAND TITLING:**

Blockchain technology first provides incorruptible security. A secure property registry built on the Blockchain can secure billions of dollars in assets and make a significant social and economic impact globally by addressing the rapidly growing demand need for transparency and accountability. A Blockchain-based registry also allows government and individuals the ability to audit quickly. Finally, a Blockchain-based registry allows for substantial reductions in the cost and time required to register and transfer property.

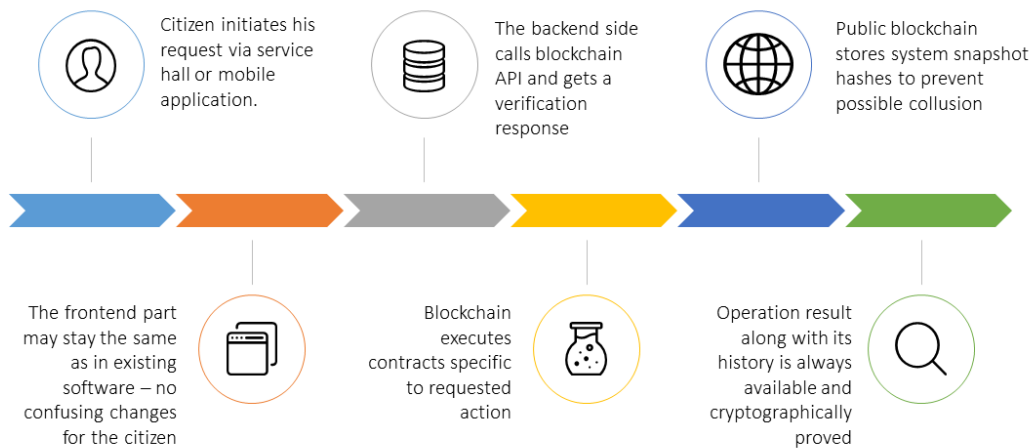
### **ABOUT THE BLOCKCHAIN TRUST ACCELERATOR:**

The Blockchain Trust Accelerator is harnessing one of the most significant innovations of our time – Blockchain Technology – to build solutions for social impact and governance challenges. Working together with a broad range of institutions, organizations and companies, the Accelerator generates pilot projects that deliver positive social impact along with insights into how Blockchain can enhance accountability, efficiency and transparency. The Accelerator is a partnership between The Bitfury Group, New America and the National Democratic Institute.

## ABOUT THE BITFURY GROUP:

The Bitfury Group is the leading full service Blockchain technology company and one of the largest private infrastructure providers in the Blockchain ecosystem. The Bitfury Group develops and delivers both the software and the hardware solutions necessary for businesses, governments, organizations and individuals to securely move an asset across the Blockchain. The expertise of The Bitfury Group ensures successful, easy, fast, secure and cost-effective connectivity to the Blockchain. The Bitfury Group is a global team of experts in technology, business, communications, security and civil society. The Bitfury Group believes the Blockchain can and will open new doors for global economic opportunity and prosperity, and its mission is to create and advance Blockchain applications that will further promote innovation and the advancement of the peer-to-peer economy and the Economy of Things.

## Blockchain Registry: How Does It Work?



## Solution Design: Registries

**Service** (Icon: Bank building, People, Bank building, Mobile phone)

Service can be provided in a classical way – via public service halls, government organizations, etc. Secure mobile applications can be built for the service layer as well with the help of Blockchain technology.

**Operations** (Icon: Computer monitor, People, Computer monitor, Computer monitor, Computer monitor)

People operate as normal, using software to engage in existing business processes.

**Blockchain** (Icon: Blockchain chain)

Blockchain platform operates and validates business logic as well as providing immutability and transparency.

**Security** (Icon: Globes with arrows)

Timestamping service to verify the blockchain data by anchoring to a trusted Blockchain. The Bitcoin Blockchain should be used, as it is the most secure public Blockchain.

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