

*Note: This document is a translation of a part of the original Japanese version of February 14, 2022 and provided for reference purpose only. In the event of any discrepancy between the Japanese original version and this English translation, the Japanese original version shall prevail.*



Press Release

April 11, 2022

## Entering Web3 solution business, having BANQ's NFT business unit a consolidated subsidiary

Tokyo, Japan – MINKABU THE INFONOID, Inc., (Ken Uryu, Founder & CEO; hereinafter “Minkabu”) is pleased to announce to enter the solution business to promote Web3, a blockchain-based network for companies. In addition, Minkabu is to have a consolidated subsidiary to be named MINKABU WEB3 WALLET, Inc., (Jun Takeda, Representative Director; hereinafter “Minkabu Web3 Wallet”) by taking majority stake through the third-party allotment on May 1st of a company incorporated as a result of incorporation-type Company Split of NFT division at BANQ Inc., (hereinafter “BANQ”).



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## **1. business purpose of the newly establishing company**

BANQ is a Web3 company that develops and operates from the blockchain (Ethereum compatible blockchain THX network) layer to NFT issuance infrastructure and service layer apps. BANQ listed its own token THX on to Singapore's crypto asset exchange LIQUID in 2019 as an IEO.

BANQ and Minkabu have been jointly developing the NFT solution business, which provides an NFT system infrastructure to businesses that wish to sell content and goods using NFT. As a first step, Minkabu will collaborate with Urawa Red Diamonds, one of major professional football clubs in Japan, to sell "NFT Contents".

In order to provide new value and UX by digitalization through the embodiment of personal activity value by NFT, based on the concepts of Web3, to the market, Minkabu and BANQ have agreed to jointly develop the solution business to lead companies from Web 2.0 to the Web 3 era by leveraging the neutrality and stable technological capabilities that Minkabu have cultivated in the media industry and BANQ's blockchain technology as well as application development capabilities.

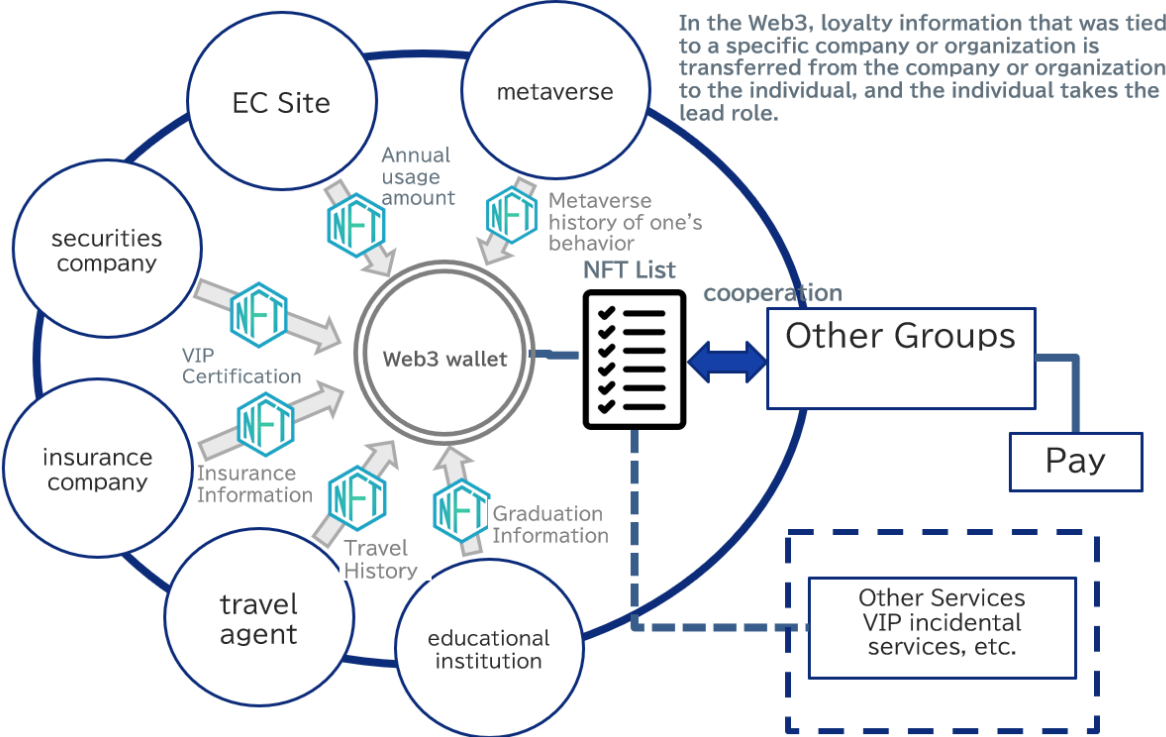
The newly establishing Minkabu Web3 Wallet will support the participation of various companies in Web3 and create opportunities for companies to reach out to loyal customers of their own and other companies' services.

## **2. background**

Web3 is a network based on decentralized blockchain technology. Unlike Web 2.0, where information was centralized in a specific company or government, ownership of information belongs to individuals. User information that was previously limited to specific companies will be converted to NFT and managed by users in their own wallets, enabling a UX where users can receive various benefits not limited to specific companies. In addition, user information can be smoothly utilized in the fields of metaverse and e-sports by linking user information.

As companies adapt to the Web3, information on loyal customers which used to be tied to specific companies and organizations, can now belong to individuals and be utilized across companies and organizational boundaries. This makes it possible to develop services based on information on loyal customers shared among multiple companies and organizations.

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**3. Description of Business**

Minkabu Web3 Wallet will support to create new value for each company and individual by developing two businesses: the "NFT Marketplace Business" and the "NFT-based Personal Activity Based Certificates Business" ("ABC Business").

(1) NFT Marketplace Business

NFTs are unique and irreplaceable tokens because they are assigned an ID (data) that is unique in the world. By utilizing blockchain technology, it is possible to create digital tokens that are difficult to tamper with, allowing owners to prove ownership of digital content and freely engage in secondary distribution. Minkabu Web3 Wallet leverages our expertise to provide artists and businesses seeking to utilize NFT with an NFT solution that can hold value separate from financial instruments. We offer a SaaS monthly fee model that allows artists and businesses to easily establish dedicated NFT marketplaces, as well as a customizable white-label model. To keep pace with the Web3 era, we also offer solutions that facilitate connectivity with other NFT marketplaces.

(2) ABC (Activity Based Certificates) business

ABC business provides a service to various companies, educational institutions, and other public organizations that allows individuals to convert their activity records into NFT. By allowing companies to freely issue NFTs to their users based on their activities, they can provide not only benefits transcend company boundaries, but also optimal services to users

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based on NFT information issued by other companies. Minkabu Web3 Wallet plans to issue wallets to individuals free of charge, while issuing NFTs to companies and organizations with an issuance fee and a pay-as-you-go fee for access to the NFT information in the individual's wallet. By using this ABC, companies and public institutions will be able to do the followings without large system investments

(1) Simplification of ID linkage and site access

- Seamless integration of mutual solutions is possible by using the NFT as a proof of use.

By connecting wallets to each other, a new information infrastructure that enhances the convenience of information sharing in a secure and anonymous manner will be provided.

(2) Issuance of action trails to customers

- NFTs are assigned for specific actions (consecutive-logins, achievement of certain conditions)

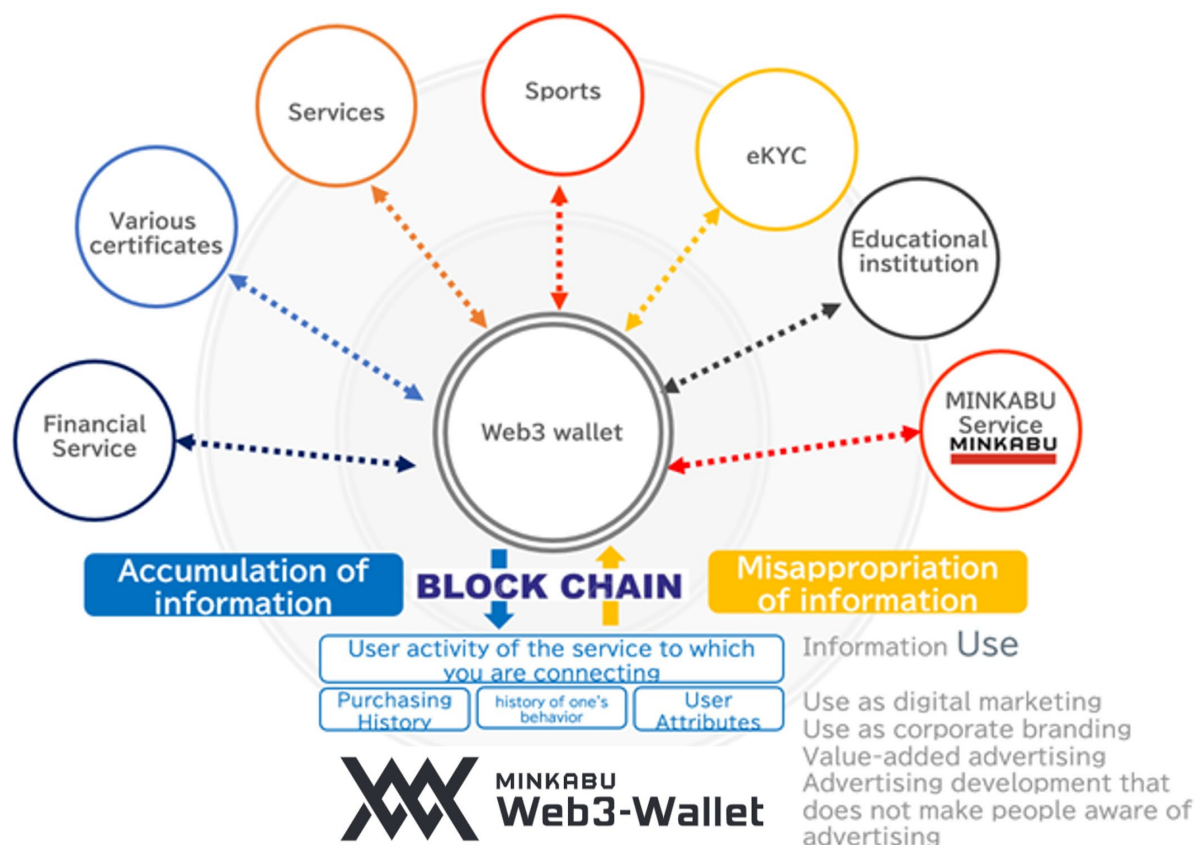
- Can be used for digital marketing purposes after the fact

- NFTs for service use with expiration dates can also be easily issued/various campaigns can be easily realized.

- Smart contracts can be used to automatically issue NFTs and transfer them to individuals.

(3) Linkage with other services

- NFTs issued by other companies can be used as the basis for your own services.



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Based on Minkabu's mission of "providing a mechanism that embodies the value of information," we will help companies, organizations, and public institutions respond to the Web3 by uncovering information assets that have been buried within certain companies and creating new value.

The impact of this transaction on consolidated business results of Minkabu is expected to be negligible.

■ MINKABU THE INFONOID, Inc. (<https://minkabu.co.jp/>)

The Company operates large scaled media in Japan namely "MINKABU", an asset building information media, and "Kabutan", a stock information dedicated media. Through these media, the Company provides various financial informations including crypt currency, forex, commodity futures, mutual funds, insurance and realstate, as well as stocks. In addition, the Company provides various solution products to financial institutions, utilizing crowd inputs of users' posting and browsing, and AI which analyze big data and instantly generate content.

Company Name	: MINKABU THE INFONOID, Inc.
Head Office	: 1-8-10 KudanKita, Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo
Founded	: July 7th, 2006
Representative	: Ken Uryu (Founder and CEO)
Business	: Media busines, Solution business
Group companies	: Prop Tech plus Inc., Robot Fund Co.,Ltd. MINKABU ASSET PARTNERS, Inc.

■ Information media operated by MINKABU Group

MINKABU:	<a href="https://minkabu.jp/">https://minkabu.jp/</a>
Kabutan:	<a href="https://kabutan.jp/">https://kabutan.jp/</a>
Kabutan US Equities:	<a href="https://us.kabutan.jp/">https://us.kabutan.jp/</a>
MINKABU Choice:	<a href="https://minkabu.co.jp/choice/">https://minkabu.co.jp/choice/</a>
Japan REIT.COM*:	<a href="http://www.japan-reit.com/">http://www.japan-reit.com/</a>
JAPAN PRIVATE REIT.COM*:	<a href="https://www.japan-private-reit.com/">https://www.japan-private-reit.com/</a>

\*operated by Prop Tech plus Inc.

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■ BANQ inc. (<https://BANQ.co.jp>)

BANQ is developing services utilizing blockchain technology domestically and internationally. In addition to planning and operating the token economy "thx!", BANQ offers "LimiteT", the first\* NFT marketplace in Japan that realizes a subscription model with credit card payment. It also develops and operates the cloud-based employee benefit services "Salary Supplement®" and "Almost Daily Payment Kun®", as well as other Fintech services, applications, and software. \*Domestic NFT services as of April 2022, according to our own research.

Company Name : BANQ Inc.  
Office : Shin-Roppongi Bldg. 8F, 7-15-7 Roppongi, Minato-ku, Tokyo  
Founde : October 2, 2015  
Representative : Munehiro Takahashi  
Business : Development and operation of blockchain and FinTech related products  
Affiliated Company : bit3x Technologies Pte.

■ Minkabu Web3 Wallet, Inc. (to be a subsidiary on and after May 1, 2022)

Minkabu Web3 Wallet provides a service that enables companies and artists to open NFT marketplaces using blockchain technology. It also supports the participation of various companies and public institutions in Web3 through Activity Based Certificates (NFT), creating opportunities for companies and public institutions to reach out to loyal customers of their own and other companies' services.

Company Name : MINKABU WEB3 WALLET, Inc.  
Office : 1-8-10 KudanKita, Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo  
Management : Chairman and CEO Masakatsu Saito  
(Minkabu Senior Executive Vice President and COO)  
Representative Director and COO Jun Takeda (BANQ COO)  
Director Ken Uryu (Minkabu Founder, Representative Director and CEO)  
CTO : Yasuyuki Nakazawa  
(Minkabu Operating Officer in charge of Consulting division)  
Advisors : Munetaka Takahashi (BANQ President and CEO)  
Kotaro Kondo (BANQ CTO/ FST Network Japan President and CEO)  
Noel Bao (FST Network Blockchain Specialist/ Ethereum development team)  
Business : NFT Marketplace Business, ABC (Activity Based Certificates)

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