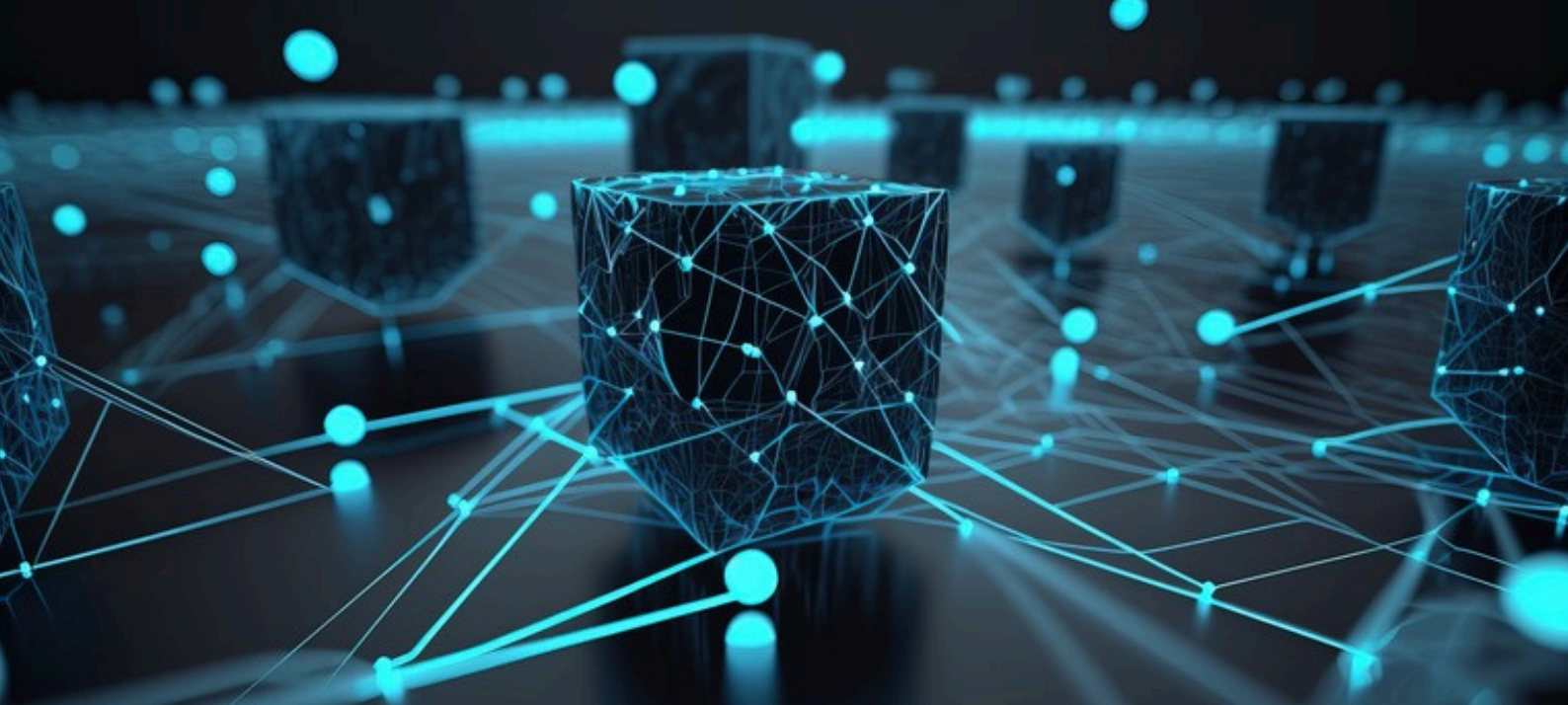


**BUSINESS
SYDNEY**



**MAKING SYDNEY THE
BLOCKCHAIN CAPITAL OF THE
ASIA PACIFIC REGION**

MARCH 2026



CONTENTS

- 1 INTRODUCTION
- 2 PAUL NICOLAOU, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR,
BUSINESS SYDNEY
- 3 STEVE VALLAS, CEO, BLOCKCHAIN APAC
- 4 BLOCKCHAIN EXPLAINED; WHY IT MATTERS AND
WHY SYDNEY MUST LEAD
- 7 WHY SYDNEY IS HOME OF BLOCKCHAIN IN THE
ASIA PACIFIC REGION
- 8 A FIVE-POINT PLAN TO GROW SYDNEY'S
BLOCKCHAIN LEADERSHIP
- 9 CONCLUSION

INTRODUCTION

Sydney is already the blockchain and digital assets capital of Australia.

The opportunity now is to become the blockchain capital of the Asia-Pacific.

Blockchain will underpin the next wave of global economic growth, just as financial services and technology have done in previous decades.

With leadership, coordination and ambition, Sydney can secure its place as one of the world's most important digital-economy cities.

The question is no longer can Sydney lead.

It is simply: Will we choose to do so?



A MESSAGE FROM BUSINESS SYDNEY

There is traditional data management and then there is blockchain.

Blockchain takes a decisive and imaginative step into the future.

Think of it this way. Traditional data management might have a single owner. That single owner might have the sole administrative control of information that must be shared. But when access to data is shared, who can guarantee that it hasn't been changed or put in a form that is self-serving for one or others?

Where is the trust?

Think of blockchain as being the single version of immutable truth. It can be shared but it can't be manipulated or changed unilaterally. In so many pursuits it provides the certainty and confidence that data is reliable, protected and fair.

It's a technology solution that has been coming our way over a period of years. Perhaps accelerated by the advent of cryptocurrency.

Now, it is here fully formed and being used. Sydney is at the forefront in Australia. There is every reason to think Sydney can be the blockchain leader in the Asia Pacific.

All the pieces of the chain are there. The opportunity for Sydney to lead is the critical link.

It's time to grasp it.

Paul Nicolaou
Executive Director
Business Sydney



A MESSAGE FROM BLOCKCHAIN APAC

Sydney is home to major banks, market infrastructure providers, regulators, payments businesses and firms building tokenisation, custody and digital settlement infrastructure. That concentration matters.

Australia has the foundations of a globally significant blockchain and digital assets ecosystem.

Blockchain is no longer experimental technology. It is becoming part of the operating layer of financial markets influencing how assets are issued, traded and settled. Jurisdictions that move early to provide regulatory clarity and coordinated support will attract capital, talent and long-term investment.

Leadership does not require reinvention. It requires coordination, policy certainty and visible commitment.

The capability exists. Now we must decide whether we intend to act with intent and ambition.

Steve Vallas
CEO
Blockchain APAC



BLOCKCHAIN EXPLAINED; WHY IT MATTERS AND WHY SYDNEY MUST LEAD

What Is Blockchain?

In simple terms, blockchains are shared digital ledgers maintained across a network of computers. Transactions are recorded in a way that is highly tamper-resistant and auditable, making the history transparent, verifiable and resilient.

In financial services terms, blockchain enables institutions, market infrastructure providers and regulated businesses to exchange value and information with stronger auditability, faster settlement and more consistent data integrity across systems, including across borders.

Key features include:

- Shared and verifiable transaction records
- Tamper-resistant audit trails
- Faster settlement and reconciliation
- Cross-border interoperability
- Programmable workflows and transactions

Blockchain underpins the direction of travel across digital assets, stablecoins, tokenised securities, digital identity, decentralised finance (DeFi), supply-chain tracking and emerging models of next-generation government services.



Why Blockchain Is Critically Important

Blockchain is not just a technology trend; it is increasingly becoming part of the operating layer of the global digital economy.

Globally, blockchain is already transforming:

- Banking and payments
- Capital markets and asset tokenisation
- Trade finance
- Logistics and supply chains
- Digital identity
- Government services

It enables faster, cheaper, safer and more transparent systems that reduce friction, lower costs and increase access to markets and capital.

Countries that lead in blockchain will attract:

High-value investment

- Global headquarters
- Digital talent
- FinTech and Web3 scale-ups
- Advanced manufacturing and data-driven industries

This is not optional; it is a global competitiveness race that has already started.



WHY SYDNEY IS HOME OF BLOCKCHAIN IN THE ASIA PACIFIC REGION

Sydney already has a substantial competitive advantage because it is:

- Home to Australia's largest concentration of blockchain companies
- The headquarters of major digital asset exchanges
- The base for leading Web3 venture capital funds
- A centre of financial services, regulation, compliance and capital markets
- Home to world-class universities and research institutions
- A major Asia-Pacific financial hub

Sydney combines technology, capital, regulation, talent and global connectivity in a way no other Australian city can.

It is the only Australian city that can credibly position itself as the Asia-Pacific capital of blockchain and digital assets.



A FIVE-POINT PLAN TO GROW SYDNEY'S BLOCKCHAIN LEADERSHIP

To fully unlock the opportunity to become the Asia Pacific blockchain capital, Sydney must move from organic growth to a coordinated global leadership strategy adopting these priorities.

1. Policy and Regulatory Leadership

Sydney should champion:

- Clear, proportionate digital asset and blockchain regulation
- Supportive frameworks for tokenisation, stablecoins and digital identity
- Regulatory sandboxes that attract global innovators

Certainty attracts capital. Leadership attracts headquarters.

2. Talent and Skills Development

- Expand blockchain education across universities and TAFEs
- Attract global founders, engineers and entrepreneurs
- Support local upskilling and targeted migration pathways

3. Global Branding and Investment Attraction

Position Sydney as: The Asia-Pacific Capital of Blockchain and Digital Assets

- International summits and conferences
- Global roadshows
- Strategic partnerships with Singapore, Hong Kong, Tokyo and Silicon Valley

4. Government Adoption

Government should lead by example:

- Digital identity
- Property and land registries
- Licensing and compliance
- Grants and procurement using blockchain rails

This creates real demand and de-risks innovation.

5. The Value Blockchain Brings to Sydney

Blockchain is a jobs engine, investment magnet and productivity multiplier. By leading, Sydney gains:

- Thousands of high-value technology and financial services jobs
- Global headquarters and venture capital inflows
- Increased export earnings
- New digital trade corridors
- Higher productivity across government and business
- A stronger, more future-resilient economy

It also positions Sydney as the gateway city for Asia-Pacific digital finance, attracting the next generation of financial markets, exchanges, custodians and payment networks.



CONCLUSION

This is an opportunity that is too good to miss. Sydney is already well placed to become the leader in blockchain technology in our international region. It is time to grasp the opportunity and take the blockchain trajectory to innovation, economic growth and the next big thing that is already in our midst.

BUSINESS SYDNEY

