



April 19, 2017

## Nasdaq Launches Venture Investment Program

### Dedicated unit will focus on fintech investment and strategic partnership opportunities

NEW YORK, April 19, 2017 (GLOBE NEWSWIRE) -- [Nasdaq](#) (Nasdaq:NDAQ), one of the world's leading providers of technology and services to the capital markets, announced today the launch of a venture investment program, Nasdaq Ventures, dedicated to discovering, investing in and partnering with unique fintech companies worldwide. The program's main objective is to identify and collaborate on new technologies and groundbreaking services and solutions which align with Nasdaq's clients' needs and the company's long-term objectives in the global capital markets.

"With the launch of our new venture investment program, we are reinforcing our focus on driving growth and innovation by evaluating, distributing, licensing and integrating disruptive technologies for the long-term benefit of our global clients," said Adena Friedman, President and CEO, Nasdaq. "Investing in pioneering fintech firms, who are developing unique technologies, continues our history of being a platform and partner of choice for the most innovative companies in the world. In addition, through this program we plan to accelerate the pace of innovation to ensure our clients continue to benefit from the technologies that are reshaping the capital markets."

As part of Nasdaq's Corporate Strategy function, Nasdaq Ventures will be led by Gary Offner who will report to Jean-Jacques Louis, Head of Corporate Strategy. Offner has more than 20 years of continuous private equity, venture capital and strategic direct investment experience with an emphasis on minority growth capital investments in technology companies, and is a long-time veteran of Morgan Stanley.

The minority stake investments made by Nasdaq Ventures are expected to range from less than \$1M to approximately \$10M and will include seed to late-stage venture rounds. Every potential investment will receive a rigorous review with an established internal committee to ensure that each partnership is aligned with Nasdaq's overall financial and strategic goals, as well as an existing business line or business strategy in order to guarantee that every investment furthers the company's competitive and strategic position in the chosen businesses. Areas of initial focus will include: digital transfer/blockchain; machine learning and artificial intelligence; emerging and frontier marketplaces; and next generation data, analytics and content aggregation. The venture investing program will not have any material implications on Nasdaq's capital allocation strategy.

Nasdaq's investment program began unofficially in late-2015 and has since been partnered strategically with blockchain infrastructure provider [Chain.com](#), machine intelligence company [Digital Reasoning](#) and real-time risk analytics firm [Hanweck](#).

For potential collaboration and investment opportunities please contact [Ventures@nasdaq.com](mailto:Ventures@nasdaq.com).

### About Nasdaq

Nasdaq (Nasdaq:NDAQ) is a leading provider of trading, clearing, exchange technology, listing, information and public company services across six continents. Through its diverse portfolio of solutions, Nasdaq enables clients to plan, optimize and execute their business vision with confidence, using proven technologies that provide transparency and insight for navigating today's global capital markets. As the creator of the world's first electronic stock market, its technology powers more than 85 marketplaces in 50 countries, and 1 in 10 of the world's securities transactions. Nasdaq is home to approximately 3,800 listed companies with a market value of \$10.1 trillion and nearly 18,000 corporate clients. To learn more, visit: [business.nasdaq.com](http://business.nasdaq.com).

### Cautionary Note Regarding Forward-Looking Statements

*The matters described herein contain forward-looking statements that are made under the Safe Harbor provisions of the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995. These statements include, but are not limited to, statements about Nasdaq and its products and offerings. We caution that these statements are not guarantees of future performance. Actual results may differ materially from those expressed or implied in the forward-looking statements. Forward-looking statements involve a number of risks, uncertainties or other factors beyond Nasdaq's control. These factors include, but are not limited to factors detailed in Nasdaq's annual report on Form 10-K, and periodic reports filed with the U.S. Securities and Exchange*

*Commission. We undertake no obligation to release revisions to any forward-looking statements.*

NDAQG

For Media Inquiries:

Nasdaq:

Allan Schoenberg

[Allan.Schoenberg@nasdaq.com](mailto:Allan.Schoenberg@nasdaq.com)

Direct: (212)231-5534

Ryan Wells

[ryan.wells@nasdaq.com](mailto:ryan.wells@nasdaq.com)

Direct: +44 (0) 20 3753 2231

Mobile: +44 (0) 7809 596 390

 [Primary Logo](#)

Source: NASDAQ, Inc.

News Provided by Acquire Media