Japan's Giant Financial Conglomerate SBI Holdings Partners with Startale Group to Develop an All-in-one OnChain Trading Platform for Tokenized Stocks and RWAs

Landmark Alliance Leading Global Shift: Pioneering the Next-Generation Platform where all the value can stream 24/7.





Tokyo & Singapore, August 22, 2025 – Startale Group Pte Ltd ("Startale"), a global crypto infrastructure leader, and SBI Holdings, Inc. (SBI Holdings"), a comprehensive global financial group with over 11 trillion JPY in assets under management and a customer base of over 65 million worldwide, including 14 million securities accounts, have announced a groundbreaking strategic joint venture to partner up and launch an onchain trading platform focused on tokenized stocks and real-world assets (RWAs).

This partnership positions the alliance at the forefront of the global tokenized stock revolution, capitalizing on the explosive momentum created by Robinhood's recent launch of tokenized stocks and major crypto exchanges like Kraken, Bybit, and Gemini expanding their tokenized stock offerings. The joint venture directly addresses the massive \$18.9 trillion tokenized asset market opportunity projected by 2033, with the aim to bring about institutional-grade onchain trading infrastructure globally.

Riding the Tokenized Stock Wave: Leading the Global OnChain Revolution

The partnership comes as 2025 is being recognized as "the year of institutional adoption in crypto, with DeFi playing a pivotal role in reshaping traditional finance". SBI Holding and Startale aim to take this concept further with true 24/7 onchain trading capabilities and cross-border settlement infrastructure with lower fees.

The joint venture has secured milestone-based committed funding to fuel development and market expansion, with capital deployment structured across strategic milestones to ensure disciplined execution and sustainable growth towards commercial launch.

Onchain Trading: The Future is 24/7, Global, and Programmable

"The whole financial market is moving from an offchain environment to onchain. We believe that the tokenized stock revolution is the largest opportunity and onchain trading is the next frontier," said <u>Sota Watanabe</u>, Founder of Startale Group. "While traditional markets remain closed 70% of the time, our platform will enable continuous, programmable trading of tokenized stocks, including US and Japanese native stocks, with near-instant settlement capabilities. This isn't just about digitizing existing assets, it's about creating entirely new financial primitives that merge the trust of traditional equities with the composability and accessibility of DeFi."

The platform will leverage cutting-edge blockchain infrastructure aiming to offer:

- True 24/7 tokenized stock and other financial assets trading with no market closure limitations
- Near-instant cross-border settlements, eliminating traditionally long settlement cycles
- Fractional ownership, making high-value stocks accessible to retail investors
- Composable financial products integrating tokenized stocks with DeFi protocols

The eventual aim is to create a tokenised world where all the value can flow freely.

In an era where RWA are being tokenized and the convergence of traditional finance and DeFi is accelerating

"A structural transformation is currently underway in global financial markets, characterized by the on-chaining of RWAs—in other words, the tokenization of real-world assets," commented Yoshitaka Kitao, Representative Director, Chairman, President & CEO of SBI holdings. "As tokenized RWAs enable 24/7 real-time settlement and achieve unprecedented liquidity and capital efficiency, the convergence of traditional finance and DeFi will likely accelerate. We predict that this movement will eventually lead to the digitalization of capital markets themselves, including exchanges. By capturing this trend and by leveraging our corporate ecosystem together with Startale's blockchain technology, we have great expectations for creating a new decentralized platform. This platform will be highly interoperable, always open, accessible to anyone, and designed to meet the needs of users worldwide in the global market."

The joint venture addresses critical market gaps identified in traditional tokenized stock offerings. Unlike existing platforms that operate during limited hours or serve restricted geographies, this new infrastructure will provide true 24/7 global access with institutional-grade security and compliance frameworks specifically designed to meet the needs of a global market, ensuring interoperability and accessibility for users worldwide.

Technical Architecture: Built for Scale and Compliance

Leveraging Startale's proven blockchain infrastructure and SBI Group's corporate ecosystem spanning finance and digital space, the platform will feature:

- Advanced Account Abstraction, eliminating complex wallet management for retail users
- Institutional custody solutions meeting the highest security and regulatory standards
- Frictionless Retail Onboarding with access to previously exclusive markets
- Real-time compliance monitoring ensuring adherence to international regulations

Strategic Joint Venture Structure and Entity Framework

This business alliance is structured around the establishment and operation of two specialized joint venture companies with clear mandates: one entity will be responsible for core technology development, while the other will handle the planning and execution of brand and business expansion strategies.

Further updates on the platform's development and launch timeline will be shared

as milestones are achieved.

About SBI Holdings

SBI Holdings is a Tokyo-based financial conglomerate with operations spanning

securities, banking, asset management, and insurance. As a pioneer in digital

finance, SBI has consistently led innovation in online brokerage, fintech investment,

and blockchain adoption across Japan and Asia.

https://www.sbigroup.co.jp/english/

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About Startale Group

Startale Group, headquartered in Singapore, is building the foundation of the next

civilisation by bringing billions onchain. Known for co-developing Sony's Layer-2

blockchain Soneium and Astar Network, Startale Group creates innovative tools

such as Startale AA, networks, and applications that serve the distinct needs of

entertainment and financial markets, establishing a unique market position through

its dual-sector expertise.

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