



June 15, 2026

SBI XDC Network APAC Co., Ltd.

## **SBI XDC Network APAC and the University of Tsukuba Launch Joint Research on the XDC Network Blockchain**

SBI XDC Network APAC Co., Ltd. (Head Office: Minato-ku, Tokyo; Representative Director: Tomohiko Kondo; hereinafter “SBI XDC”), which operates blockchain-based trade finance solutions within the SBI Group, hereby announces that, as part of its industry–academia collaboration initiatives, it will conduct a joint research project on the Layer 1 public blockchain “XDC Network” (hereinafter the “Joint Research”) with the University of Tsukuba (Location: Tsukuba City, Ibaraki Prefecture; President: Kyosuke Nagata; hereinafter “University of Tsukuba”) for the period from June 15, 2026 to March 31, 2027.

The selection of the XDC Network as the subject of this Joint Research was based on technical considerations, including its EVM compatibility, low transaction costs, and its design optimized for enterprise use. In addition, the fact that it is a public blockchain in which the SBI Group is involved was also one of the factors in its selection.

This Joint Research will focus primarily on these technical characteristics and will conduct cross-sectional verification of key blockchain components—such as smart contracts, token design, and on-chain/off-chain integration—without limiting the scope to any specific use case.

Through this Joint Research, SBI XDC aims to accumulate practical knowledge related to blockchain technologies and contribute to the social implementation of such technologies.

### **■ About XDC Network**

The XDC Network is a hybrid blockchain designed for trade finance and enterprise use. As a decentralized, open-source smart contract platform, it is utilized in areas such as trade finance, supply chain management, and cross-border payments. By leveraging the XDC Network, enterprises and developers can enable reliable data sharing and digital management of assets.

### **■ About SBI XDC Network APAC**

SBI XDC Network APAC Co., Ltd. is a joint venture between SBI Holdings, Inc. (Head Office: Minato-ku, Tokyo; Representative Director, Chairman, President & CEO: Yoshitaka Kitao) and TradeFinex Tech Ltd. (Head Office: UAE; Co-Founders: Atul Khekade and Ritesh Kakkad), which operates the XDC Network—a layer-1 public blockchain designed for inter-business trade finance efficiency. The company offers trade finance solutions, expands partnerships with subnet enterprises, and supports cryptocurrency exchanges interested in handling XDC.

For more information: <https://www.sbixdc.network>

**■About Professor Kazumasa Omote’s Laboratory, University of Tsukuba**

Professor Kazumasa Omote’s laboratory at the Faculty of Engineering, Information and Systems, University of Tsukuba conducts research in cybersecurity based on network security and cryptographic technologies. In particular, the laboratory focuses on analyzing blockchain data to identify risks related to illicit transactions and network structures in crypto assets.

The laboratory is also advancing research on next-generation security technologies, including malware detection methods resilient to adversarial attacks in machine learning, as well as authentication and payment infrastructure utilizing IoT devices and smart contracts. In addition, it conducts applied research across a broad range of areas, such as authentication frameworks leveraging Trusted Execution Environments (TEE) and digital signature technologies, as well as privacy-preserving data analytics.

These research outcomes have been widely published in international academic journals and conferences, and the laboratory is recognized as a leading research hub in this field.

For more information: <https://www.risk.tsukuba.ac.jp/omote-lab/>

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For further information, please contact:

SBI XDC Network APAC Co., Ltd.: [sbixdc\\_contact@sbixdc.network](mailto:sbixdc_contact@sbixdc.network)