

Joint press release

Blockchain technology set to revolutionise supply chain management in the pharmaceutical industry

- **GFT and MYTIGATE are pooling their skills to create a proof of concept for monitoring pharmaceutical supply chains based on Blockchain**
- **The aim is the joint development of a planning and tracking solution for the medication transport process**
- **Distributed Ledger Technology enables a new level of security and transparency, reducing both errors and costs**

Stuttgart / Wiesbaden, 5 April 2018 – Today, IT company GFT Technologies SE (GFT) and start-up MYTIGATE signed a cooperation agreement that is set to revolutionise the monitoring and tracking of pharmaceutical supply chains. The Business Administration / Aviation Management Research department of the Frankfurt University of Applied Sciences is closely involved in this pioneering work. The aim of the collaboration is to create a Blockchain-based planning and tracking system utilising Distributed Ledger Technology (DLT). Both pharmaceutical and specialist logistics companies are potential clients. The new pharmaceutical supply chain tracking system enables users to document the planning of medication shipments and to then track them around the world in order to identify risks and both clearly monitor and better understand problems that may occur during transportation. The technology will make it possible to indicate temperature changes or delays predictably in the future, which will help to improve processes in the long term. This would lead, in turn, to the minimisation of errors within the supply chain and the reduction of costs for all parties involved.

The collaboration enables a fast start in terms of analysis, brainstorming and development. “We will determine potential options together and further develop the promising ones,” says Marika Lulay, CEO of GFT. The first step is to create a proof of concept for the Blockchain-based application. This includes the definition of the key requirements, costs and necessary development activities plus a proposed architectural design. Professor Dr. Yvonne Ziegler from the Frankfurt University of Applied Sciences and co-initiator of MYTIGATE explains: “As a specialist start-up in risk management, we bring valuable pharmaceutical logistics expertise to the project – particularly with a view to specific applications in the risk-based planning of transportation and shipment tracking. We are also providing additional IT and data analyses for the feasibility study.” Lulay adds: “GFT is contributing the necessary Blockchain and technology expertise, plus the staff to program the software architectures.” A second phase aims to jointly develop a commercial solution.

Blockchain as a key technology

The DLT approach enables both secure and transparent tracking of various shipments using a single system that can be exploited collaboratively by various pharmaceutical and logistics companies. The fact that user rights can be regulated flexibly is a real advantage as this means that only specified people can access information about their shipments. In addition, the new planning and tracking system will generate data for MYTIGATE’s risk management platform in order to create key risk figures and provide information on the best routes for certain shipments.

MYTIGATE is the result of a project funded by the State of Hesse as part of the LOEWE3 innovative research initiative. The start-up aims to develop and operate a standardised, validated risk management platform for the pharmaceutical industry’s supply chain management. GFT and MYTIGATE are also working with the Research Consortium for Pharma Supply Chain Risk Management, which includes leading pharmaceutical and logistics companies (Bayer AG and

Boehringer Ingelheim Pharma GmbH & Co. KG, Frigo-Trans GmbH and GEFCO Forwarding Germany GmbH among others) as well as the Fulda University of Applied Sciences and the RheinMain University of Applied Sciences.

Definition of distributed ledger technology

DLT is a special form of electronic data processing and storage. A distributed ledger is a decentralised database that allows users of a network to share read and write permissions. One form of distributed ledger design is the blockchain system.

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About GFT

As an experienced technology partner, GFT Technologies SE (GFT) is committed to driving the digital transformation. Our global innovation team develops new business models, focusing on topics such as blockchain, cloud engineering, artificial intelligence and the internet of things across all sectors. Founded in 1987, the company is now represented with a global team of around 5,000 employees in Europe and North and South America. Our business focus is on the financial services industry. Drawing on our extensive knowledge of the sector, we advise the world's leading financial institutions and develop bespoke IT solutions.

www.gft.com

About MYTIGATE

The start-up MYTIGATE provides pharmaceutical companies and their logistics service providers with a web-based, validated platform for supply chain risk management. The company has been set up by Prof. Dr. Yvonne Ziegler, Professor at Frankfurt University of Applied Sciences, and Uwe Wiederhold, Managing Director at cynatics Consulting GmbH. MYTIGATE provides risk metrics to pharmaceutical producers, wholesalers, forwarders and carriers based on the capabilities and performance of potential supply chain partners on a specific lane. In addition, MYTIGATE can be used to verify new lanes and to evaluate which lane will be suitable for a particular product. The information can also be used for certification and documentation towards regulatory authorities. MYTIGATE is the gateway to secure, digital, validated and economical supply chain management. MYTIGATE is a start-up based in Wiesbaden that emerged from the research project "Pharma Supply Chain Risk Management" of the Frankfurt University of Applied Sciences. The project is supported by the state of Hessen within the framework of the LOEWE 3 funding guideline (project no.: 555 / 17-37).

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About the Frankfurt University of Applied Sciences (Frankfurt UAS):

Applied sciences, high internationality and lived diversity mark the FRA UAS. Questions from the practice receive scientifically sound answers and these research results find their way directly back into society. Partnerships with approximately 200 institutions of higher education worldwide show, that the FRA UAS is well networked. Different people study, teach and work at the campus Nibelungenplatz. The institution profits immensely from the extensive cultural diversity of our international location. The FRA UAS provides many opportunities: It is an open institution and thereby a powerful engine for integration in the region. It promotes the development of potentials and paves the path of education with qualified academic education. It thereby significantly contributes to the future viability of the city and metropolitan region Frankfurt Rhine/Main. Four faculties offer 62 innovative, diverse and application-oriented degree courses with technical, economic-legal and social orientation, which result in the internationally recognized Bachelor or Master degrees. In addition, demanding, interdisciplinary and transdisciplinary research is conducted in extraordinary subject combinations. In the dialog with partners from the economy, associations and institutions, the Frankfurt UAS is an innovative development partner in order to generate new solutions. The close connection of research and teaching with the practice qualifies students for a successful entry into attractive professions and marks them by quickly settling into everyday working life. They are trained to become personalities, who take on social responsibility. An extensive and manifold continuous education program allows intensive profession-accompanying and life-long learning. The campus which was established in 1971 as Fachhochschule Frankfurt/Main – Frankfurt University of Applied Sciences is located in the center of Frankfurt. Frankfurt University of Applied Sciences – interdisciplinary, international, integrative and innovative. Frankfurt University of Applied Sciences • Nibelungenplatz 1 • 60318 Frankfurt.

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