

[Home](#)

[Featured Homepage Posts](#)

FEATURED HOMEPAGE POSTS

Blockchain to bring clarity, liquidity: academic



[Tahn Sharpe](#) August 14, 2018

in









Blockchain technology will radically transform the economy around us and the Australian Securities Exchange’s switch to it is just the tip of the iceberg, academic Chris Berg says.

Blockchain – the technology that makes bitcoin possible – has “a large number of applications across the economy for much more than things like cryptocurrencies”, he says.

Berg is a senior research fellow at the RMIT Blockchain Innovation Hub, an adjunct fellow with the Institute of Public Affairs, and an academic fellow with the Australian Taxpayers’ Alliance. He says blockchain offers almost limitless possibilities, in contrast to Bitcoin, which he argues is less of a sure thing for the future.

“When somebody asks me where I should put my money in terms of bitcoin, I tell them to put in or
Have your say cause we’re still trying to figure out what it is.”

“We have some of the best agricultural products in the world, and we want to sell them into emerging markets across Asia, but to do so we need to demonstrate to consumers in China that the goods they are receiving are genuine,” he explains. “We want to know that this lobster comes from Tasmania, or that this product is organic.

“If we put that sort of information on a decentralised ledger that doesn’t have any sort of single authority controlling that information, then we’re more likely to trust that information,” he explains.

New way to move money

Berg says that if we apply the same thinking to the economy, blockchain can add security and clarity to the way money is moved globally.

“If you start to see the economy as a nested group of supply chains, you can see that blockchain will [very probably be] integrated into so much of what we do,” he says. “What we have in the world right now is a very opaque financial system, because we don’t know enough information about the financial products that we’re purchasing and large institutional investors lack visibility of the financial supply chain. Blockchain can change that in a significant way.”

Another advantage of this development, he predicts, will be a dramatic increase of liquidity in the market.

“It makes it much easier to move funds around the world, to do interbank transfers and make remittance payments,” he says.

Pushing boundaries, raising dilemmas

Berg will be a speaker at the 2018 Portfolio Construction Forum Strategies Conference, to be held at Carriageworks in Eveleigh, Sydney, on August 22-23.

This year’s forum will feature 45 investment thinkers from around the world debating contemporary and emerging portfolio construction strategies in the context of the thematic question, “Are future-proof portfolios achievable?”

Berg will expound on how blockchain will affect the economy and look at the way authorities will be forced to alter policy to accommodate the changes.

“I’m going to talk about the really dramatic public policy changes that’ll be taking place over the next decade as technologies like blockchain come on board,” he says. “What I’m really interested in is preparing audiences and people who are operating the economy for a period of radical change in an economic sense and a public-policy sense.”

That change, he believes, will be far reaching.

“New technologies will push at the boundaries of existing regulation,” Berg says. “They will create new challenges and resolve old challenges in ways we haven’t expected, and raise dilemmas for regulators, governments and local councils across the country.”

[BLOCKCHAIN](#), [CHRIS BERG](#), [CRYPTOCURRENCY](#), [PORTFOLIO CONSTRUCTION FORUM](#), [SUPPLY CHAIN LOGISTICS](#)



Tahn Sharpe is a Sydney-based financial services journalist with a background in financial planning. He writes on advice, superannuation, investment, banking and insurance issues, is a certified SMSF Adviser and holds an Advanced Diploma of Financial Planning. Contact at tahn.sharpe@conexusfinancial.com.au

Please login via linkedin to post a comment

Login via LinkedIn

MOST RECENT

More women on boards, but economic equality ‘a generation away’

‘I don’t mention I’m from AMP’

Local super industry leading the world on mental health during Covid-19

Carden Calder has shown her greatest strength at home



RELATED CONTENT



INDUSTRY

‘I don’t mention I’m from AMP’

Advisers licensed by AMP admit the latest round of scandals has made them reluctant to admit their link to the

Have your say



SUPERANNUATION

Local super industry leading the world on mental health during Covid-19

It is a difficult time, but also a time of excitement for mental health advocates, who say Covid-19 is catalysing deep



PROFILES

Carden Calder has shown her greatest strength at home

Because hearing people talk about their personal challenges has been an enormous help to Carden Calder, the

Tahn Sharpe
August 18, 2020

Ben Hurley
August 17, 2020

Ben Hurley
August 17, 2020

Sign up to our daily newsletter for regular news
flashes and industry insights.

Subscribe

About

Professional Planner is the leading voice for financial planners where they can learn about industry standards, get news, information, debate and develop new ideas.

[Subscribe](#)

[Advertise](#)

[Contact us](#)

[About Us](#)

[Our Authors](#)

[Feedback](#)

[Cookie Policy](#)

[Conexus Financial](#)

Our partners

