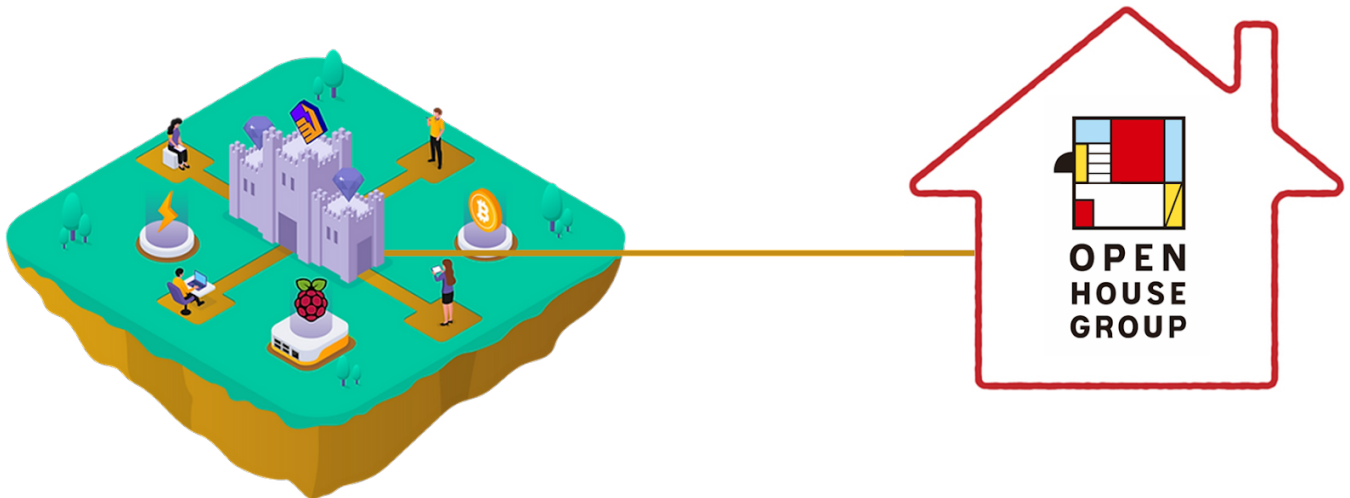


Open House Group to sponsor Diamond Hands community of Bitcoin Lightning Network developers

Performing joint research on Lightning Network use cases by businesses in Japan

Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo – Open House Group Co., Ltd. (Masaaki Arai, President & CEO) is pleased to announce its plans to sponsor and support the research and outreach efforts of Diamond Hands, Japan's largest community of developers and users of the Lightning Network, a fundamental technology gaining traction for dramatically scaling Bitcoin's transaction capabilities.



In anticipation of technology-driven changes to come in lifestyle and business practices, we aim to position itself advantageously through continuous efforts in research, planning, investments, partnerships, and business expansions.

The Bitcoin blockchain, stable since its launch in 2009 as the first public blockchain, is the obvious primary candidate to consider exploring use cases for this technology. In particular, Open House Group is interested in the second-layer solution known as the Lightning Network, which alleviates the scalability problem associated with an increase in transactions.

The Lightning Network has seen rapid growth especially since 2021, expanding its userbase through integrations at fintech platforms with tens of millions of users in Latin America and the U.S. Major payment processors and online retailers have also begun adopting the technology, bringing increased attention.

Beyond enabling cheap and rapid payments, the Lightning Network may also become an important platform that improves the usability of blockchain-based financial services, enabling the creation of micropayment-based data markets and a new, more decentralized internet.

Diamond Hands is a Japanese community started by developers who had taken interest in the potential of the Lightning Network from early on. The growing community now operates internationally, conducting outreach to increase Lightning adoption and attract developer talent, as well as providing corporate consulting and performing its own R&D. Through its sponsorship, we aim to begin joint research on the following topics with the goal of implementing them for internal projects, while fostering mutual understanding with members of the community.

- Full node operation practices for business firms
- Secure data storage and personal cloud services on local full nodes at real estate properties
- Using the Lightning Network for IoT micropayments in household environments
- Application of second-layer technologies to real estate transactions
- Report on Lightning Network implementation by companies abroad, and search for business alliances.
- Payment routing over the Lightning Network

Open House Group intends to continue researching the use of the blockchain, including the new hybrid field known as Web3 which includes other concepts such as the metaverse, and exploring cutting edge use cases that relate to real estate transactions, real estate management, construction, and everyday payments.

About Diamond Hands:

<https://www.diamondhandsnode.com/>

About Open House Group

Open House Co.,LTD. shifted to a pure holding company structure, and changed the company name to Open House Group Co., Ltd from January 2022.

Open House Co., Ltd. is a fully integrated real estate firm and the No.1 seller of single-family homes and condominiums in the Tokyo Metropolitan Area. Recording revenue and profit growth for nine consecutive years and rapidly expanding its business in the U.S. market, it aims to become a “trillion-yen company” by 2023.

Its growth is commonly attributed to its feet-on-the-street approach to both sales and information gathering, but the company is also proactive in utilizing technology, with a strong internal tech team and proprietary systems supporting the sales force. Open House aims to accelerate its growth further through its research and timely adoption of novel technologies:

Open House Group Co., Ltd. Website: <https://openhouse-group.co.jp/>

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