

Santander InnoVentures backs Securitize, a blockchain startup for issuing digital securities

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Santander InnoVentures, Santander Group's fintech venture capital fund, announced today an investment in Securitize, a California-based startup which offers a trusted global solution for issuing and managing compliant digital securities on the blockchain. This is InnoVentures's eighth investment in California and adds to the more than 25 fintech investments to date in the fund's global portfolio.

Securitize's protocol, which compliantly manages secondary trading and corporate actions for digital securities, currently has the highest adoption rate in the industry with 11 digital securities currently issued, five trading on public marketplaces, and dozens more in the pipeline.

Manuel Silva Martínez, partner and head of Investments at Santander InnoVentures, said: "As we bet on companies that are reengineering core pieces of our industry's infrastructure through blockchain technologies, Securitize is an obvious addition to our portfolio that further enables Santander taking part in the nascent digital securities markets. We are excited to work with Carlos and his team to revolutionize the capital markets industry together."

Carlos Domingo, co-founder and CEO of Securitize, said: "Bringing on key strategic investors as well as leading blockchain investors validates how transformative digital securities are for traditional financial markets. Their investment in Securitize ensures that we can continue to drive adoption and innovation with our execution and industry-leading technology."

InnoVenture's investment is part of a larger fundraise from Securitize, which has secured a \$14 million strategic fundraise with backers that also include MUFG and Nomura Holdings to further develop its technology platform to modernize the securities industry. This latest fundraise is an extension of Securitize's Series A round and brings its total financing to north of \$ 30 million.

Santander InnoVentures is Banco Santander's \$200 million corporate venture fund. SIV invests in start-ups in fintech and adjacent areas to accelerate their growth, support great entrepreneurs and teams, and support them with the capital, scale and expertise of the Santander Group. Since launching in 2014, the fund has invested in more than 25 companies, being one of the most active bank-backed fintech corporate venture in the world. Over 70% of the fund's portfolio companies are now in strategic engagements with Santander. More info: <http://santanderinnoventures.com>.

Banco Santander is a leading retail and commercial bank, founded in 1857 and headquartered in Spain. It has a meaningful presence in 10 core markets in Europe and the Americas, and is the largest bank in the euro zone by market capitalization. At the end of June 2019, Santander had EUR 1.03 trillion in customer funds (deposits and mutual funds), 142 million customers, 13,000 branches and 200,000 employees.

Securitize delivers trusted global solutions for creating and managing compliant digital securities. The Securitize compliance platform and protocol provide a proven, full-stack solution for issuing and managing digital securities (security tokens). Securitize's innovative DS Protocol has the highest adoption rate in the industry and enables seamless, fully compliant trading across multiple markets simultaneously. Multiple Securitize powered digital securities are already trading globally on public marketplaces with many more in the pipeline.

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