
NEWS RELEASE

Crypto Garage Provides Technical Support for “Digital Certificate” Launched by the Eiken Foundation of Japan ～ Provided Back-End Technology in Cooperation with DOU ～

Crypto Garage Inc. (Crypto Garage), a subsidiary of Digital Garage, Inc. that develops blockchain financial services in the Fintech field, has partnered with DOU, Inc. (DOU) to provide technical support for the “Digital Certificate.” This certificate will be used for the EIKEN and EIKEN S-CBT practical English proficiency tests and the EIKEN CSE scores within the digital version of the “Lifelong Learner Account,” which will launch on May 30, 2024.

■About the Digital Certificate

The Eiken Foundation of Japan’s (Eiken) Lifelong Learner Account, introduced in September 2023, allows learners to continuously track their past test-taking history, even if their environment or registration information changes. ^(*1)

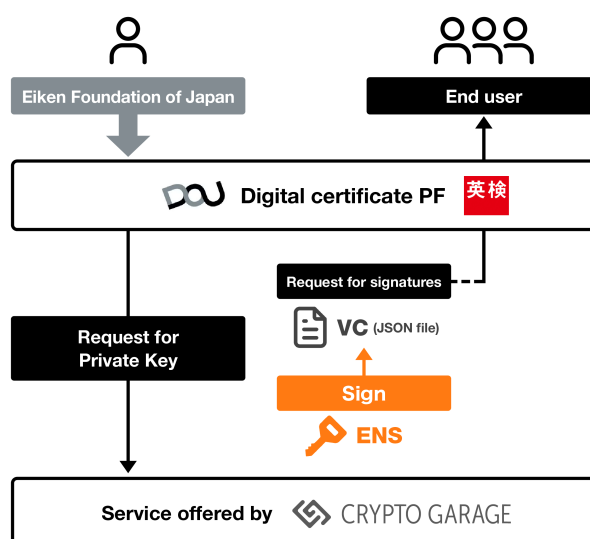
The Digital Certificates being launched follow the Verifiable Credentials standard proposed by the W3C, a global Web standards organization. Unlike paper certificates, which can be altered, these digital certificates ensure the integrity of test results, making it impossible to change them. Over 8.4 million copies can be issued, making it the largest-scale electronic certificate issued by domestic certification organizations.

(*1) Reference: Eiken Foundation of Japan Announcement dated September 20, 2023

https://www.eiken.or.jp/eiken/info/2023/pdf/20230920_info_lifelong-learner.pdf

■Back-end technology provided by Crypto Garage

Crypto Garage provided the technology related to the private keys required for the digital certificates through DOU. By leveraging its strengths in blockchain technology, globally recognized security standards widely used by financial institutions, and private key management expertise as a licensed crypto asset entity, Crypto Garage supports digital certificate projects that require high security and uptime.



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Crypto Garage will continue to provide technology, develop services around the DID/VC^(*2) area, and contribute to addressing social issues with blockchain technology.

(*2) DID/VC: Decentralized Identifier (DID/Decentralized ID) and Verifiable Credential (VC/Verifiable Digital Certificate), which represent next-generation authentication and certification methods leveraging blockchain technology. This technology guarantees confidentiality by allowing users to manage their own information, security through tamper-resistance and traceability, and convenience by enabling users to easily present information that has been certified by a third party.

■Comment from Masahito Okuma, CEO at Crypto Garage

Eiken has contributed to the spread of practical English in Japan for more than 60 years, and is now widely known throughout the country, from children to adults, and is expected to play an even more important role in university and high school entrance examinations. We feel very honored to be able to contribute to the implementation of this "Digital Certificate" by providing a highly advanced method of authentication and proof through our blockchain technology. We will continue to respond to the needs of all industries through next-generation technology.

■Future roadmap

Crypto Garage will continue to develop and provide high-standard financial services utilizing blockchain technology and cryptography through collaboration with DG Group assets and partners. It will also contribute to the creation of next-generation social structures and the development of a sustainable society.

[Company overview]

Name	Digital Garage, Inc.
Location	DG Bldg., 3-5-7 Ebisu Minami, Shibuya-ku, Tokyo 150-0022, Japan Shibuya PARCO DG Bldg., 15-1 Udagawa-cho, Shibuya-ku, Tokyo 150-0042, Japan
Established	August 17th, 1995
Representative	Kaoru Hayashi, Representative Director, President Executive Officer and Group CEO
Business	Guided by the Purpose "Designing "new contexts" for a sustainable society and implementing them in society through technology," we have a payment that provides a diverse and comprehensive payment platform as one of the largest payment service providers in Japan, which plays a key role in social infrastructure. DG also operates a marketing business that provides one-stop solutions in the digital and real world, and a startup investment and development business that reaches out to potential startups and technologies in Japan and worldwide.
Website	https://www.garage.co.jp/en/

Name	Crypto Garage, Inc.
Location	DG Bldg., 3-5-7 Ebisu Minami, Shibuya-ku, Tokyo 150-0022
Established	September 2018
Representative	Masahito Okuma, CEO
Crypto Asset Exchange Registration Number	Kanto Finance Bureau 00029

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M01e1mbership	Japan Virtual and Crypto asset Exchange Association Global Digital Finance
Business	R&D and commercialization of financial services using blockchain
Website	https://cryptogarage.co.jp/en/

Name	DOU, inc.
Location	Shibuya PARCO DG Bldg., 15-1 Udagawa-cho, Shibuya-ku, Tokyo 150-0042, Japan
Established	August 2018
Representative	Tatsuya Ishibe, CEO
Business	engaged in human resource development and recruitment support business using the Career Passport / digital certificate issuance support business.
Website	https://dou.id/