Glossary of Terms used in FTSE Russell Digital Asset Documents

v1.2
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Glossary

A

Air-gapped Cold Storage
A network security measure employed on one or more computers to ensure that the computer is physically isolated and not connected in any way to other devices or networks.

B

BIP32
A Bitcoin design idea, which was approved and became standard, that states the necessity for a digital asset to be compatible with the Hierarchical Deterministic (HD) wallet protocol, allowing multiple public and private key pairs to be derived from a single starting point.

BIP39
A Bitcoin design idea that was approved and became standard, which states the necessity for a digital asset to use mnemonic phrase to serve as a backup to recover one’s wallet.

BIP44
A specific implementation of BIP32 that defines a logical hierarchy for deterministic wallets based on an algorithm described in BIP32.

Bitcoin Improvement Proposals (BIPs)
Open-design documents used to propose the introduction of new Bitcoin standards and features.

Blockchain
A blockchain is an immutable, peer-to-peer digital ledger that facilitates the recording of transactions.

Byzantine Fault-Tolerance
A feature that allows a distributed network to resist against arbitrary or erratic information produced by a fraction of its participants.
C

Closed Issue
A bug, problem, or potential improvement that was resolved after it was reported in a code repository.

Circulating Supply
The number of tokens that are publicly available and circulating in the market for a digital asset.

Codebase (or Code Base)
A collection of computer code used to build an application or software.

Code Repository
A file archive and web hosting platform where developers can store and share computer software.

Commit, Pull Request, Merged Pull Request
Terms associated with the uploading of modified computer code into a code repository.

Contributor
A person who contributes to the development of code in a particular code repository.

Consensus
A general agreement amongst blockchain network participants on which state of the network is correct.

D

Digital Asset
An asset that is issued and transferred using distributed ledger or blockchain technology.

Distributed Version-Control
A web-based interface, such as GitHub or GitLab, that mirrors a complete codebase and its full history across every developer’s computer.

Diverse Validation Quorum
Unique, publicly identifiable validators actively producing blocks on a blockchain.

G

GitHub
A popular platform that hosts code repositories and provides version control functionality.
Hardware Security Modules (HSM)
A cryptographic appliance designed to protect sensitive data by safeguarding digital keys that are used to encrypt or decrypt digital signatures and other cryptographic functions.

Hierarchical Deterministic Wallet
A hierarchical deterministic wallet is a digital asset wallet that derives its private key from a seed, such as a set of words.

Mnemonic Passphrase Backups
A group of pseudo-random words used to derive a private key.

Open Issue
A bug, problem, or potential improvement reported in a code repository that has yet to be resolved.

Open-Source License
A type of license for computer software that allows its source code to be used, modified, and/or shared in compliance with specific terms and conditions.

Open-to-Close-Issue Ratio
The number of open issues compared to the number of closed issues in a code repository.

Private Key
A unique, secret key that pairs with a public key to allow users to encrypt and decrypt a wallet and sign transactions.

Proof-of-Stake
A form of consensus algorithm that requires network validators to stake or lock assets native to the network in order to validate transactions and achieve distributed consensus.

Proof-of-Work
A form of consensus algorithm that requires network validators to solve a mathematical problem with computing power in order to validate transactions and achieve distributed consensus.

Public Key
A cryptographic code unique to a personal address that is shared in the distributed ledger or blockchain.
S

**Stablecoin**
Digital assets designed so their price is pegged to a specific value, whether it be cryptocurrency, fiat money, or to exchange-traded commodities (such as precious metals).

**Standardised Signature Algorithm**
A cryptographic protocol approved by the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST).

T

**Target Repository**
The primary codebase that is stored in the code repository that powers the associated platform's user-facing services.

V

**Validator**
An entity that is responsible for verifying transactions within a distributed ledger or blockchain.

**Vulnerability Reporting Workflow**
A formalised method to report bugs and security vulnerabilities in a codebase.

W

**Wallet**
An app or program that allows people to store and retrieve their digital assets.
Further information

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