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Cypherpunk Makes $5M Investment into Zcash Open Development Lab (ZODL)

March 9, 2026

Cypherpunk expands its holdings with new $5M investment in Zcash company, ZODL, alongside key investors including a16z, Winklevoss Capital, Coinbase, Paradigm, Chapter One, David Friedberg, Balaji Srinivasan, and others

CAMBRIDGE, Mass., March 9, 2026 /PRNewswire/ -- **Cypherpunk Technologies Inc.**, (Nasdaq: CYPH) today announced the company has invested $5M into Zcash Open Development Lab (ZODL) marking its first technology investment outside of ZEC. ZODL was founded and is led by former Electric Coin Company (ECC) CEO Josh Swihart.

At ECC, Josh and his team, who have joined him at ZODL, launched the top Zcash wallet, Zashi, now rebranded to Zodl. Zashi was arguably the single biggest factor responsible for putting Zcash back on the map last year. In particular, its simple UX allowed for the Orchard shielded pool to grow from ~1M ZEC to ~4M ZEC during the span of 2025.

ZODL, which now houses the Zashi wallet technology and related intellectual property, aims to make Zcash easier to use with continued development of the wallet, as well as supporting Zcash at the protocol level.

The new investment strongly aligns with Cypherpunk's mission of advancing technologies that guarantee privacy for all humans on the internet and gives its shareholders exposure to a private company building critical privacy infrastructure on the frontier.

"True to their name, Cypherpunk is backing the builders who will put shielded ZEC in the hands of billions. We're grateful for their support and proud to partner with them in bringing private digital money to the global mainstream." **– Josh Swihart, CEO of ZODL**

The investment in ZODL is highly synergistic with Cypherpunk's ZEC treasury.

"As ZODL makes Zcash easier to use, we expect adoption of the protocol to grow alongside demand for ZEC." – **Cameron and Tyler Winklevoss**

Swihart joined Cypherpunk in December as a strategic advisor. Cypherpunk's current total ZEC holdings stand at 294,743.10, at an average price of $335.89, bringing the company's total network ownership to ~1.78%.

"ZODL and Cypherpunk are the two most important companies in privacy. We're excited to embark together on this mission of accelerating technology that defends self-sovereignty and secures human freedom." – **Will McEvoy, Chief Investment Officer of Cypherpunk**

About Cypherpunk

Cypherpunk Technologies Inc. is a privacy technology company implementing a digital asset treasury strategy anchored by Zcash and, through its subsidiary Leap Therapeutics, Inc., is developing novel therapies for patients with cancer. The Company is aiming to build long-term shareholder value by acquiring ZEC, participating in the development of privacy technologies and Zcash, and continuing the development of sirexatamab and FL-501 to treat patients with cancer. For more information about the Company, visit our websites athttp://www.cypherpunk.com andhttp://www.leaptx.com or view our public filings with the SEC that are available via EDGAR athttp://www.sec.gov or viahttps://investors.leaptx.com/.

About Winklevoss Capital

Winklevoss Capital is an investment firm founded in 2012 by Cameron and Tyler Winklevoss that invests in frontier technologies.

FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS

This press release includes forward-looking statements within the meaning of Section 27A of the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, Section 21E of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended. These forward-looking statements generally can be identified by the use of words such as "anticipate," "expect," "plan," "could," "may," "will," "believe," "estimate," "forecast," "goal," "project," and other words of similar meaning. Forward-looking statements address various matters including statements relating to the investment in Zcash Open Development Lab ("ZODL"), ZEC, or digital assets held or to be held by the Company, the expected future market, price and liquidity of ZEC or other digital assets the Company acquires, the macro and political conditions surrounding Zcash or digital assets, the Company's plan for value creation and strategic advantages, market size and growth opportunities, regulatory conditions, competitive position and the interest of other corporations in similar business strategies, technological and market trends, and future financial condition and performance. Risks and uncertainties of the digital asset treasury strategy include, among others: (a) the risk that the Company will fail to realize the anticipated benefits of the investment in ZODL and the digital asset treasury strategy; (b) changes in business, market, financial, political and regulatory conditions; (c) risks relating to the Company's operations and business, including the highly volatile nature of the price of cryptocurrencies, including ZEC; (d) the risk that the price of the Company's Common Stock may be highly correlated to the price of ZEC or other digital assets that it holds; (e) risks related to increased competition in the industries in which the Company does and will operate; (f) risks relating to significant legal, commercial, regulatory and technical uncertainty regarding digital assets generally; and (g) risks relating to the treatment of crypto assets for U.S. and foreign tax purposes. New risks and uncertainties may emerge from time to time, and it is not possible to predict all risks and uncertainties. No representations or warranties (expressed or implied) are made about the accuracy of any such forward-looking statements. The Company may not actually achieve the forecasts disclosed in such forward-looking statements, and you should not place undue reliance on such forward-looking statements. Such forward-looking statements are subject to a number of material risks and uncertainties including but not limited to those set forth under the caption "Risk Factors" in the Company's most recent Annual Report on Form 10-K filed with the SEC, or as may be included in other reports or information we file with the SEC, as well as discussions of potential risks, uncertainties, and other important factors in its subsequent filings with the SEC. Any forward-looking statement speaks only as of the date on which it was made. Neither the Company, nor any of its affiliates, advisors or representatives, undertake any obligation to publicly update or revise any forward-looking statement, whether as a result of new information, future events or otherwise, except as required by law. These forward-looking statements should not be relied upon as representing the Company's views as of any date subsequent to the date hereof.

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