The Shipping Platform of the Web 3.0

Transforming the Global Shipping Industry with a decentralized platform, connecting Ship Owners, Carriers, and Shippers.
Abstract
Shipping and the World Trade
Challenges Facing the Shipping Industry
Challenges for Carriers
  — Security threats
  — Environmental Regulations
  — Labor Disputes and Job Cuts
  — Lack of Transparency
  — Overcapacity
Challenges for Shippers
  — Finding the best options
  — Finding the best rates
  — Preparation and documentation
  — Shipping demand exceeds forecast
Introducing BitNautic
  — Shipping, the way it should be
  — Global
  — Reliable
  — Secure
  — Transparent
  — Easy to Use
  — Inexpensive
  — Multi-Currency
  — Intelligent
BitNautic Solutions
  — Shippers Challenges, Our Solutions
  — Carriers Challenges, Our Solutions
BitNautic Decentralized Application
  — Cargo Booking System
  — Ship Brokerage System
  — Cargo Consolidation
  — Tracking system
Today, shipping industry accounts of around 90% of the value of the World Trade. Shipping is the life blood of the global economy. Without shipping, intercontinental trade, the bulk transport of raw materials, and the import/export of affordable food and manufactured goods would simply not be possible. This hugely valuable industry has been troubled for years by challenges like overcapacity, highly variable freight rates, security threats and increasing regulations.

On the other hand, local producers, charterers and shippers, especially the ones operating from developing countries, are facing several problems when it comes to shipping, like the high number of intermediaries, the expensive freight rates, the lack of transparency, the limited number of sea lines, and the difficulties in shipping small cargo.

It's a well-known fact in the industry that global shipping has to increase efficiency, improve processes and perform a fundamental digital transformation, to ensure future profitability for the ship owners, and to provide more opportunities for the charterers and producers all over the world.

To solve the industry critical problems, we are creating BitNautic, a distributed platform, based on the Ethereum Blockchain, for matching demand and supply of shipping services, for all the industry stakeholders: producers of goods, ship owners, charterers, brokers, importers and exporters.

In our vision BitNautic contribution to the digitalization and decentralization of the shipping industry, will contribute to the growth of developing countries, in an open market and free trade, increasing international trade and cooperation, public-private partnerships within the industry, knowledge sharing, and bridging the gap between government regulators and the shipping industry.

BitNautic has started his operations with a focus on the emerging countries of the Africa continent.

BitNautic development and expansion will be funded with the Crowdsale of the BitNautic Token BTNT, used to access the BitNautic platform.
The shipping industry is the backbone of globalization and international trade.

Seaborne transportation plays a major role in the world’s industries and society, enabling the transport of large volumes of raw and processed material, as well as food, water and technological products.

Seaborne trade continues to expand, bringing benefits for consumers across the world through competitive freight costs. Thanks to the growing efficiency of shipping as a mode of transport and increased economic liberalization, the prospects for the industry’s further growth continue to be strong.

There are over 50,000 merchant ships trading internationally, transporting every kind of cargo. The world fleet is registered in over 150 nations and manned by over a million seafarers of virtually every nationality.

Ships are technically sophisticated, high value assets and the operation of merchant ships generates an estimated annual income of over half a trillion U.S. Dollars in freight rates.

Throughout the last century the shipping industry has seen a general trend of increases in total trade volume. Increasing industrialization and the liberalization of national economies have fueled free trade and a growing demand for consumer products. As with all industrial sectors, however, shipping is susceptible to economic downturns. Indeed, following several years of incredibly buoyant shipping markets, for many trades the best in living memory, much of the international shipping industry has fallen prey to the worldwide economic downturn in 2008, translated into a dramatic and abrupt reduction in demand for shipping.

Source: UNCTAD secretarial calculations, based on data from Clarksons Research, 2017.
Today, still experiencing a slightly slower growth rate compared to the longer-term historical average, global waterborne trade is forecasted to double in 2035.

Continued population growth in Africa, Asia and South America and rising urbanization will be one of the strongest drivers of the growing demand for waterborne services during the coming decade.

Growing cross border e-commerce and the fourth industrial revolution (Industry 4.0), will also have the potential to sustain the growth and further reshape maritime trade patterns.

But to sustain that growth, and, on the same time, ensure future profitability for the ship owners and easy access to shipping services for charters and producers in developing counties, the global shipping industry have to increase efficiency, improve processes and perform a fundamental digital transformation.
Most of the world’s manufactured goods and products are transported by container ships, but the industry is facing a tough and unpredictable future.

Overcapacity, trust issues and outdated systems plagued by human errors, missing and inaccurate documents and even substandard goods have a fundamental impact on the industry’s prospects. These challenges, along with higher demands from society for transparency, accountability, and responsibility in the logistics chain, drives the industry towards exploring new solutions.

Shipping industry is facing high administrative burdens of managing and writing claims with a lot of paperwork requiring signatures multiple times. Despite all this stress, a small service disruption or insufficient capacity anywhere in the network could result in shipment delays, increased costs or wrong deliveries. Moreover, a hazard striking to shipment is thievery, which is not only armed robbery but the latest security threat to the maritime industry comes from hackers.

As far as it goes back, the whole shipping community has never been on the same platform for the issues related to payments and transactions. Lack of information prevails among importers and exporters regarding the type and cost of ships and transport fees. The challenges facing the shipping industry are many, the major ones listed below.
Challenges for Carriers

Security threats

The high number of incidents of piracy and armed robbery against ships off the Somalia coast and in the Gulf of Aden is something that the whole world is aware of, and is a growing concern for the maritime industry that is heavily affected by these incidents. Though the acts of piracy have been controlled to some extent, ship owners still use private armed security guards on their vessels while commuting the dangerous pirate zones in West Africa. Not only armed robbery, the latest security threat to the maritime industry comes from hackers. Automated and technologically advanced ships have become vulnerable to cyber-attacks with hackers being successful in accessing the GPS, AIS – marine Automatic Identification System, and ECDIS – Electronic Chart Display and Information System (a system for viewing digital nautical charts).

Environmental Regulations

Maritime transport emits around 1000m tons of CO2 annually and is responsible for about 2.5% of global greenhouse gas emissions. These emissions are predicted to increase up to 250% by 2050 in absence of installation of newer energy-saving technologies. There is a growing concern over the impact of global shipping activities on the environment – greenhouse effect and danger to aquatic life. The industry is working towards finalizing the framework for the monitoring, reporting, and verification of CO2 emissions from maritime transport. However, in the absence of universally approved regulations and fully reliable technologies, there is uncertainty in the industry.
The latest report from UNCTAD (The Review of Maritime Transport 2017) say that the seaborne trade grew by 2.6 per cent in 2016, reaching 10.3 billion tons. Although this was a welcome improvement to the 2.1 per cent growth recorded in 2015, the boost in demand was offset by a 3.2 per cent increase in the industry’s carrying capacity, which reached 1.86 billion dead-weight tons earlier this year.

A supply-demand imbalance continued therefore to weigh down industry profits, with the container shipping market, the largest in terms of value, reporting a collective operating loss of US$3.5 billion.

But as world seaborne trade continues to gather steam – forecasts show a compound annual growth rate of 3.2 per cent between 2017 and 2022 – the situation could improve relatively soon if the industry could shed its excess weight.

This could be done, the report says, by building fewer ships, by scrapping more, or by increasing “capacity sharing” – essentially the pooling of cargo among carriers to improve economies of scale and reduce operating costs.

Overcapacity

The latest report from UNCTAD say that the seaborne trade grew by 2.6 per cent in 2016, reaching 10.3 billion tons. Although this was a welcome improvement to the 2.1 per cent growth recorded in 2015, the boost in demand was offset by a 3.2 per cent increase in the industry’s carrying capacity, which reached 1.86 billion dead-weight tons earlier this year.

A supply-demand imbalance continued therefore to weigh down industry profits, with the container shipping market, the largest in terms of value, reporting a collective operating loss of US$3.5 billion.

But as world seaborne trade continues to gather steam – forecasts show a compound annual growth rate of 3.2 per cent between 2017 and 2022 – the situation could improve relatively soon if the industry could shed its excess weight.

This could be done, the report says, by building fewer ships, by scrapping more, or by increasing “capacity sharing” – essentially the pooling of cargo among carriers to improve economies of scale and reduce operating costs.

Lack of Transparency

Bad tracking is caused by equally harmful gaps in transparency. While tracking issues are systemic and inherent to the task of moving goods, the failures of transparency are largely due to bad data handling practices (or worse, due to parties being incentivized not to share accurate data).

Often, due to fragmentation, uncertainty, or to protect the exclusivity of their arrangements, brokers can’t or won’t tell a shipper exactly what carrier and driver are carrying their freight.

Labor Disputes and Job Cuts

Who can forget the month-long West Coast dockworkers slowdown, which brought shipping industry business to a standstill in February 2015? Or another incident in Dec 2015 when the Maritime Union of Australia (MUA) held the ship of global mining giant Alcoa, hostage for two months, disrupting the operations of the port of Portland? Repeatedly, labor disputes and strikes have disrupted the shipping industry and created huge gaps in profitability and product rollouts. The shipping rates increase, and the supply chain becomes more overloaded.
Challenges for Shippers

Finding the best options
Cargo can be moved from point to point in a number of different ways. While it’s convenient to have options, many shippers are overwhelmed or simply unaware of the many different choices they have. Understanding the shipping landscape could save time and money at the end of the day.

Finding the best rates
Looking for the best freight shipping rates can be time-consuming when not equipped with the right tools or processes. Most of the times, shippers have contracts in place (hindering flexibility) or have to make multiple phone calls just to find the best rate for one shipment. Having a transportation management system in place could provide a solution to this problem.

Preparation and documentation
Shippers sometime aren’t prepared to take on the process. From filling out the bill of lading to identifying freight classes, one misstep can result in surcharges, delays, or customs holds when shipping internationally. Shippers must be sure to prepare ahead of time with the necessary knowledge to get the job done.

Shipping demand exceeds forecast
Exporters and Importers often find themselves short on containers or bulk shipping capacity when they need them most. This leads to delays, additional costs, potential penalties and strained relations with clients as well as partners. In addition, shippers of time-definite or sequenced cargo flows risk delays, performance penalties, and lost business when they can’t deliver on time, compelling some to resort to air freight or other alternatives in order to prevent penalties but the cost often outweighs the penalties.
In general, finding the right balance between annual service contracts and the spot market is difficult and comes with financial impacts.
From the experience of our founders, confirmed by surveys and reports, we know the significant challenges faced by the maritime industry.

BitNautic address those challenges with an open decentralized platform that will enable all stakeholders, such as importers, exporters, shippers, ship owners, carriers and agents to come on the same page and negotiate their own terms, therefore, avoiding the long chains that arise due to multiple parties’ involvement. All of this will happen with the security and the transparency of blockchain.

Shipping, the way it should be.

Global
Ship Owners, all over the world, can list their Ships and update the positions. Cargo Owners, in a similar way, can list their cargos, with detailed requirements. All users are able to follow the actual conditions of the world freight market, with real-time positions at any port of the world.

Reliable
Shippers and Carriers benefit from a Reliable booking system based on effective digital contracts, backed by the Blockchain. Users execute a contract then, and there that locks in space, equipment and rate up to 6 months in advance. Carriers’ offers are all-in, and the rates are fixed. Shippers never have any surprise accessory and their rate never change. Invoices always match the contracts with 100% accuracy.

Secure
Contact information, ship name, and private data about assets are only available to the respective owners. BitNautic users decides when and with whom to share valuable information.
Public data representing the asset and contracts are stored in the blockchain, accessible and auditable to all the parties, provided they have the required privileges. History of negotiations on each contract are always available on the Blockchain and easy exportable. This helps to avoid mistakes and guarantees the honesty between the parties.

Shippers just enter cargo origin and destination, ship dates and equipment type, then instantly receive binding offers directly from carriers along with service performance and all the details they need to make an informed decision. Ship Owners just enter the Ship location and date, then instantly receive leads on matching cargos.

To find best fit for cargo and ships and to optimize the use of naval assets, BitNautic is developing an advanced AI engine designed for the shipping industry. The AI optimization will help shippers and ship owners to do a better use of the shipping resources, reducing the costs, by optimizing cargo pooling, and sharing of shipping capacity.

No markup from BitNautic. No middleman. Just a Transparent Platform fee, paid by Ship Owners/Carriers, to make the connection and manage the contract execution.

To hold equipment and space on a vessel, Shippers submit a nominal deposit that gets credited toward their balance which is due before cargo is loaded. Any freight, chartering, sale and other services can be paid with cryptocurrency or BitNautic Tokens (BTNT).

**Easy to Use**

Shippers just enter cargo origin and destination, ship dates and equipment type, then instantly receive binding offers directly from carriers along with service performance and all the details they need to make an informed decision. Ship Owners just enter the Ship location and date, then instantly receive leads on matching cargos.

**Transparent**

Public data representing the asset and contracts are stored in the blockchain, accessible and auditable to all the parties, provided they have the required privileges. History of negotiations on each contract are always available on the Blockchain and easy exportable. This helps to avoid mistakes and guarantees the honesty between the parties.

**Intelligent**

To find best fit for cargo and ships and to optimize the use of naval assets, BitNautic is developing an advanced AI engine designed for the shipping industry. The AI optimization will help shippers and ship owners to do a better use of the shipping resources, reducing the costs, by optimizing cargo pooling, and sharing of shipping capacity.

**Inexpensive**

No markup from BitNautic. No middleman. Just a Transparent Platform fee, paid by Ship Owners/Carriers, to make the connection and manage the contract execution.

**Multi-Currency**

To hold equipment and space on a vessel, Shippers submit a nominal deposit that gets credited toward their balance which is due before cargo is loaded. Any freight, chartering, sale and other services can be paid with cryptocurrency or BitNautic Tokens (BTNT).
## BitNautic Solutions

Shippers Challenges, Our Solutions

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Your challenge</th>
<th>Our solution</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>I have an unexpected need of ocean shipping</td>
<td>You can view carrier availability and find offers. You can buy contracts from 2 weeks to 6 months out, and your vessel space and container availability have the 100% reliability.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Finding offers from multiple providers is challenging and time-consuming</td>
<td>In 5 minutes you can compare offers and buy reliable and binding contract</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I have to ship a small volume, and I can’t find an affordable shipping solution</td>
<td>Just list your cargo and our system will help you find a consolidation opportunity</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I don’t know how to prepare the bill of landing and other shipping documents</td>
<td>No worry. Agents registered on BitNautic are here to help, for a fixed and affordable price.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
# Carriers Challenges, Our Solutions

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Your challenge</th>
<th>Our solution</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>My ship is having to many unproductive days, off hire</td>
<td>List your ship and update its location. BitNautic will find the optimal cargo for you.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>My vessels utilization is low, I have to improve it.</td>
<td>Add your free space and our system will find the cargo for consolidation you need.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I struggle finding new customers</td>
<td>You will be able to search through all the freight quotation requests from shippers. You will have direct contact to negotiate your terms.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>My profit trend is negative, I do business through Brokers, and they are taking all my margin (&gt;10%)</td>
<td>BitNautic will ask you a small subscription and a fix and low commission. No markup. No middleman.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
BitNautic Decentralized Application will have the following features.

**Cargo Booking System**

BitNautic Cargo Booking System is built to satisfy the needs of today’s Importers and Exporter. Shippers from any country, can see the ships that are available to carry their cargo, based on cargo location and cross-matched with the destination. The best matched lowest prices will be provided to the user, in clear and binding offers with the option to choose from multiple packages from different service providers based on specifications - weight, time frame, destination address, source address. Also appointing an agent for all shipping chores is possible with the BitNautic booking system.

**Ship Brokerage System**

BitNautic is a real-time ship brokerage system that allows carriers and ship-owners to list ships, update the location, and thus to get shipping leads and find new customers. As simple as it sounds, on BitNautic, the ship owners receive the best matching shipping leads and are supported in closing clear and reliable contracts with Shippers. The agents on the platform support carriers and ship owners in getting all the shipping documentations executed properly. No matter what goods have to be shipped, the agents on the BitNautic are there to help step by step.

**Cargo Consolidation**

Shippers and Ship Owners (Carriers) will be able to list specific opportunities for shipping consolidation. They will provide the place of loading, the place of discharge, and the details of the availability, in terms of container free space or ship hold free space (for Bulk shipping).
Wholesale E-Commerce

BitNautic offers to its users the possibility to advertise and trade wholesale goods. Producers will have the opportunity to list directly sell their products, in association with their specific place of loading. Thus, cutting out several middlemen, increasing his revenues and offering business opportunities to international traders. On the Wholesale E-Commerce platform, users come together and have trade deals, negotiating their own terms. The payment system is based on cryptocurrencies, is fast, easy, and secured by escrow service.

Escrow Services

BitNautic, offers a specific Escrow service. When Buyer initializes an escrow transaction, his BTNT tokens are locked in the smart contract. Once Buyer confirms the Seller's obligations are fulfilled, he can release funds to Seller. BitNautic, acting as Escrow Agent, oversees the transaction. If a dispute occurs, the Escrow Agent can intervene and refund the Buyer, or release funds to the Seller.

Tracking system

BitNautic will provide a state of the art ship and cargo tracking system for its customers. The main features include:

Ship Tracking

This feature is specifically designed for ship owners and customers for booking cargo. A customer would be able to see the status and position of his ships in real time. Moreover, the mobile application would allow ship owners, specific details regarding the status of the ships including a total number of containers and cargo type. BitNautic would use the tracking system to transport goods quickly and efficiently by keeping track of every ship.

Cargo Tracking

The same tracking functionality would be extended to cargo owners as well to see their cargo location in real time. This feature can solve crucial issues of lost cargos, delays in delivery and would increase customer ease and trust.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Traditional Shipping</th>
<th>BITNAUTIC</th>
<th>Benefits for</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>High Fees/Markup from Brokers 5% - 15%</td>
<td>Flat Fee: 2%</td>
<td>Shippers &amp; Carriers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Middlemen</td>
<td>Decentralized Direct Contact</td>
<td>Shippers &amp; Carriers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Delayed payment</td>
<td>Instant payment</td>
<td>Carriers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Complex/Confusing Contracts</td>
<td>Transparent, Fixed and All-In contract</td>
<td>Shippers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Opaque Fares</td>
<td>Online Offers, Direct Terms Negotiation.</td>
<td>Shippers &amp; Carriers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Complex Fragmented Documentation</td>
<td>Independent Agents Support, All documents and certificates archived.</td>
<td>Shippers &amp; Carriers</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Blockchain is a decentralized, distributed and immutable database with potential to revolutionize the way various records are being stored. Blockchain is a perfect solution for pet records storage, as the key features would enable transparent, immutable and trusted real-time data source.

Functionality, features and huge community of developers around the Ethereum blockchain suggest it as the most suitable option for BitNautic. Ethereum introduced new opportunities that Bitcoin and like Bitcoin protocol blockchains do not have. Ethereum enables code execution in a decentralized way. This means that utilizing blockchain technology it is possible to do more than just exchange or store value. It is also possible to implement rules, according to which that value can be moved, and specific data modified. Ethereum users do not need to trust any central server and can simply trust blockchain consensus algorithm and output of the system.

Smart Contract is a piece of code which is stored on the blockchain network (in each full node’s database on the network). It defines the conditions on which all parties using the contract agrees and certain actions described in the contract can be executed if required conditions met. As the smart contract is stored on every computer in the network they all must execute it and get to the same result. This way users can be sure that the outcome is correct. Central server and authority can be removed or its impact (e.g. single point of failure) minimized with the help of smart contracts.

As for shipping industry, blockchain holds the promise of transparency and efficiency for global trade.

To transport a container by sea from Mombasa, Kenya to the Port of Rotterdam, Amsterdam, requires around 200 different communications steps involving around thirty different interested parties. These crucial steps take time and moreover, such a system is prone to frauds or accidental miscommunications. Fraud protection arises since no single party has the ability to modify, delete or append any record without the consent from others within the network.
BitNautic Platform is based on the following four layers:

1. Ethereum Blockchain Layer
2. BitNautic Business Logic Layer (Smart Contracts)
3. BitNautic Services Layer (Applications)
4. BitNautic Ecosystem Layer (Third Parties Applications)
BitNautic Users

BitNautic Shippers are the users requiring shipping services. They can be:

- Exporters
- Importers
- Producers

BitNautic provides the shippers an easy way to book ships and keep records of their imports or exports. With BitNautic, the shippers can compare the best services according to their needs, book the best cargo and get relaxed. BitNautic act as the best medium for all shipping services and needs. On BitNautic platform they easily track their cargo and will be able to communicate directly with the ship owners.

- Compare prices of various carriers
- Book cargo
- Track cargo
- Charter Ships.

Carriers and Ship Owners can list their ships with complete specifications and maintain the availability of their ships. The platform offers a direct communication of ship owners with agents and shippers. Thus, the ship owners can get direct orders from importers, exporters, agents, and producers. Other than just providing the shipping services, the ship owners can also find value added services. Ship Owners benefit from following services:

- List ships on platform
  - Containers
  - Bulk or Break-Bulk ships (dry bulk)
  - Tanker ships (liquids)
- Chartering the Ship
- Receive Freight quotation requests from shippers and agents
- Offer free space for cargo consolidation

Agents

Keeping in view the various stakeholders of the shipping industry BitNautic has refined the platform so everyone from the shipping industry can benefit from it. On BitNautic platform not only the Shippers and Carriers can have benefit but also Agents of the shipping industry can use it to find new customers and increase the services. With our platform, they can communicate with ship owners, importers, exporters and producers, and also, they can list ships on platform and contact with carriers.
BITNAUTIC

PROCESS FLOWS

HOW IT WORKS

Booking a Cargo

The Shippers (producers, importers, exporters) will be able to enter in the system their specific requests for Booking a Cargo or for obtaining a Freight Quotation.

The application will guide the shippers step-by-step in the process of describing the specific deliver they need.

The shippers will be asked to provide:
- Cargo products category and description
- Shipping mode (influenced and limited by the cargo type)

**LCL (Less container load):** delivery of collective cargoes from 1m3 to 15m3, transported in a common container with other shippers in order not to overpay for delivery. It is considered the most economical way to deliver small quantities of goods.
  - Place of loading
  - Place of discharge
  - Date of shipping

**FCL. (Full container load):** Delivery of cargoes in sea containers (FCL - Full Container Load) at which the whole container is intended for one consignor

**Bulk or Break-Bulk:** Transportation of bulk, break-bulk, project and heavy cargo, military equipment and other non-standard cargoes that are too big or too heavy for a container (NCL - Non-Container Load). Vessel chartering and forwarding ship cargo lots.
The system will search for the best deals for booking the cargo using the Bulk Ships and Containers available on the Platform. In case there is no available option at the time, the Freight Quotation Request will be registered on the platform and it will be available for Ship Owners, Couriers and Agents.

**Specifications**

1. Weight
2. Time frame
3. Destination address
4. Source address

If no deal is available in the platform, the platform and the system will integrate automatically to give them the best deals available. Along with other users, there will be agents signed up on the platform that could get hired on demand.
The Shippers will be able to browse and search all the Bulk and Break-Bulk ships listed in the platform, by size, category, and specific features.

### Search for Shipping Consolidation Opportunities

The Shippers will be able to browse and search all the available consolidation opportunities entered in the BitNautic Platform by Carriers or created by the Platform to Consolidate Shipping. Shippers will be able to contact the Carrier and consolidate their cargo with the existing shipping. Consolidation service will be available for both container with free cubic meters and Bulk ship with free space in the hold.

Ship holders registered on BitNautic application will be able to List their ships on the BitNautic platform. Based on the specifications of the orders which the platform receives, it will match the requirements of the available listed ships and give an offer to the corresponding ship-owners. If the owner accepts the offer, the order will be processed and fulfilled. All the payments and transactions between the two parties would be deployed on the blockchain based on the agreed T&Cs making the process automated.
List Containers
Carriers can list their container capacity in the platform, with specific reference of the lines served.

List a Shipping Consolidation Opportunities
Carriers can list specific opportunities for shipping consolidation. They are asked to provide the place of loading, the place of discharge, and the details of the availability (container free space, ship hold free space).

Browse Freight Quotation Requests
Carriers can search and browse all the freight quotation requests available in the platform and to contact the shipper to negotiate a specific agreement and shipping details.

Hire an Agent
An excellent option provided to Shippers is to hire an Agent to do all their Shipping related activities for them. These agents can be signed up already on the platform and the platform select the best one from multiple profiles.
Listing Products on Wholesale E-Commerce

A seller can visit the company website or mobile application to list their products on the platform. Once all the details and prices are added, the platform would check the authenticity of the seller and the product for protecting the interest of the buyer. Once all the details are verified, the product would be listed on the platform.

Decentralized Shipping & Cargo Marketplace (DSCM)
BITNAUTIC TOKEN (BTNT)

Technology

The BTNT Token, an ERC20 token, will be issued to create a decentralized shipping and cargo platform built on top of Ethereum blockchain and wholesale e-commerce platform based on the Ethereum blockchain and smart contracts for trading goods and services.

The ERC20 protocol is based on Ethereum, a technical and market standard, which defines an interface for smart contracts that need to execute token emission.

The most crucial technical component of BTNT Tokens is the Ethereum Virtual Machine smart contract, which regulates token distribution, transactions, and rewards securely and transparently.

Using dedicated token (BTNT) to facilitate transactions in the BitNautic (BTNT) Ecosystem provides many advantages, including:

- it can be used across any number of jurisdictions, retaining a single uniform method of settlement;
- using a blockchain based token makes it possible to perform settlements automatically and irrefutably within smart contracts;
- it makes it possible to manage incentives in a way that drives Ecosystem effects for the benefit of all participants in the BitNautic (BTNT) Ecosystem.

Utility of Token

BTNT is designed to facilitate efficient transactions of a wide range of services on BitNautic platform, whilst also operating as a medium of exchange and a store of value that could become more valuable in line with the growth of users and increasing use of the platform.

According to the BitNautic project purposes, BTNT Tokens will be used for:

1. **Subscription for professional use of the BitNautic Platform.**
   a. Price – Per user, per Year.
   b. Compensated via Airdrop for the first 1,000 users

2. **Fees for Cargo Booking.**
   a. Commission 2% Paid by Carrier on total price paid by Shipper

3. **Fees for Ship Brokerage System.**
   a. Commission 1% Paid by Ship Owner on total price paid by Shipper

4. **Subscription to Tracking System**
   a. Price – per user, per year

5. **Fees for Escrow Service**
   a. Commission 1% Paid by Buyer or Seller on total transaction value

6. **Fees for Wholesale E-Commerce platform.**
   a. Commission 2% Paid by Seller on total price paid by Buyer

Token Type

BTNT is a hybrid token, having the nature of utility, as well as the nature of payment token. BTNT is the final token that will be used within the BitNautic ecosystem (Cargo Booking, Brokerage System, Tracking System, Wholesale E-commerce platform).
ICO - Token Generation Event

The BitNautic Token Sale uses ERC20 (Ethereum smart contract) compliant tokens, designated as BTNT.

Proceeds raised during the BitNautic token sale will be used to support marketing, business development, operations and R&D for the BitNautic project.

BTNT tokens are designed to be used within the BitNautic Platform (Cargo Booking - Brokerage System - Tracking System – Wholesale E-commerce).

Unsold tokens during the sale will be burned.

BitNautic BTNT tokens can be traded, exchanged, bought and sold between users but BitNautic Sagl has no obligation to redeem them.

Token Distribution

BitNautic will sell 35’000’000 BTNT to raise 50,000 ETH in its ICO. The ICO will end after the deadline or if the goal is reached earlier. If the soft goal is not reached, then the funds would be refunded to the participants.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Token Symbol</th>
<th>BTNT</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Token Type</td>
<td>ERC20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Token supply</td>
<td>50’000’000 (50 million) BTNT</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Initial Distribution</td>
<td>35’000’000 (35 million) 70% of total supply</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Accepted currency:</td>
<td>ETH</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Exchange Rate</td>
<td>1 ETH = 500 BTNT</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Soft Cap</td>
<td>5’000 ETH (approx. U.S. $2 million)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hard Cap</td>
<td>50’000 ETH (approx. U.S. $20 million)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Pre-ICO start-end dates

May 1st 2018 – May 31st 2018

Main ICO start-end dates

June 1st 2018 – July 30th 2018
**Capital Structure & Percentage**

**ICO Bonuses**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Pre-ICO &amp; Main-ICO</th>
<th>First Week</th>
<th>Second Week</th>
<th>Third Week</th>
<th>Fourth Week</th>
<th>Remaining Time</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Founders</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td>4%</td>
<td>6%</td>
<td>5%</td>
<td>5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Team</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td>6%</td>
<td>5%</td>
<td>5%</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bounty</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td>5%</td>
<td>5%</td>
<td>5%</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Advisors</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td>5%</td>
<td>5%</td>
<td>5%</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reserve Funds</td>
<td>70% (20% + 50%)</td>
<td>50%</td>
<td>40%</td>
<td>30%</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
ICO Participation Security

The BitNautic ICO smart contract is externally audited, using ERC20 compliant utility tokens, and is compliant with Swiss regulations, which are among the most stringent in the world.

All participants in the BitNautic ICO must pass KYC identity screening, which will be integrated into the ICO registration process and audited by and external Swiss AML compliant verification company.

ICO Participation Channels

Contributors can participate to the BitNautic ICO, using the following channels:

• Direct registration at the BitNautic ICO website (www.bitnautic.io)

• Registration at BitNautic ICO Partners:
  - Citowise Wallet (https://citowise.com)

Best Practices for Participating in an ICO/Token Generation Event

Make sure you avoid mirror site scams by trusting only the https://bitnautic.io domain. The best practice to avoid mirror site scams is to manually type the https://bitnautic.io domain into your browser, then bookmark the page for when you want to come back to the site on the day of the token sale. This helps you avoid clicking on lookalike links that may send you to malicious phishing websites.

• Only send ETH to the wallet address listed on the bitnautic.io website.

• Never send ETH from an exchange, only from an ether wallet such as the following:
  - Ethereum Wallet (from the Ethereum Project – thereum.org)
  - MetaMask (Chrome browser add-on); or
  - MyEtherWallet (in-browser version available, download recommended)

• For extra security, double check that you have the correct smart contract wallet address before you send ETH by using a tool like EtherAddress-Lookup.

A detailed guide to participating in the BitNautic token sale will be provided prior to the sale start date.
Proceeds from the BTNT ICO Token Generation Event will be utilized by BitNautic Sagl at its sole discretion. BitNautic Sagl is committed to spend the funds responsibly. BitNautic Sagl intends to use funds raised for research and development, in order to develop and improve the BitNautic platform, and in marketing and business development, in order to get its services to the market. A portion of the funds will also be used to support the international expansion, as well as for general operational and administrative expenditures.

Proceeds from ICO may also be used to develop future platform updates and releases, as well as to fund future business ventures and acquisitions.
A project, as huge as BitNautic, would not succeed without a thorough strategic planning and expansive vision. Therefore, we put so much emphasis on writing every milestone down, and having reached it, proceed to the next one already pre-planned. Having a roadmap is very important for BitNautic, as it keeps us focused on the present moment, and allows us to zoom into the future, once the targeted milestones are reached.

**ROAD MAP**

- **Q1-2017** Project Concept
- **Q2-2017** Project Development
- **Q4-2017** BitNautic Platform MVP – Started Development
- **Q1 2018** Project moved to Switzerland, BitNautic Sagl incorporated
  - Private Pre-Sale of BTNT Tokens
- **Q2-2018** ICO (Crowdsale) of BTNT Tokens
- **Q3-2018** BitNautic platform
  - Available for public testing (public beta)
  - Establishment of partnerships with selected Carriers
  - BTNT Tokens listed on the exchange
- **Q4 2018** BitNautic Platform official release
- **Q1 2019** Shipping platform integrated with blockchain
- **Q2 2019** Wholesale E-Commerce available for public testing (public beta)
- **Q3-2019** Wholesale E-commerce platform official release
LEGAL DISCLAIMER

Terms & Conditions

The complete Terms and Conditions for participating in the BitNautic Token Sale are published on the BitNautic website at https://bitnautic.io, and are the prevailing legal document related to the BitNautic Token Sale.

General information

The BTNT token does not have the legal qualification of a security, since it does not give any rights to dividends or interests. The sale of BTNT tokens is final and non-refundable. BTNT tokens are not shares and do not give any right to participate to the general meeting of BitNautic Sagl.

BTNT tokens cannot have a performance or a particular value outside the BitNautic platform. BTNT tokens shall therefore not be used or purchased for speculative or investment purposes. The purchaser of BTNT tokens is aware that national securities laws, which ensure that investors are sold investments that include all the proper disclosures and are subject to regulatory scrutiny for the investors’ protection, are not applicable.

Anyone purchasing BTNT tokens expressly acknowledges and represents that she/he has carefully reviewed this white paper and fully understands the risks, costs and benefits associated with the purchase of BTNT tokens.

Knowledge required

The purchaser of BTNT tokens undertakes that she/he understands and has significant experience of cryptocurrencies, blockchain systems and services, and that she/he fully understands the risks associated with the BTNT Token Sale as well as the mechanism related to the use of cryptocurrencies (incl. storage).

BitNautic Sagl shall not be responsible for any loss of BTNT tokens or situations making it impossible to access BTNT tokens, which may result from any actions or omissions of the user or any person undertaking to acquire BTNT tokens, as well as in case of hacker attacks.

Risks

Acquiring BTNT tokens and storing them involves various risks, in particular the risk that BitNautic Sagl may not be able to launch its operations and develop its blockchain and provide the services promised. Therefore, and prior to acquiring BTNT tokens, any user should carefully consider the risks, costs and benefits of acquiring BTNT tokens in the context of the BTNT Token Sale and, if necessary, obtain any independent advice in this regard. Any interested person who is not in the position to accept or to understand the risks associated with the activity (incl. the risks related to the non-development of the BTNT platform) or any other risks as indicated in the Terms & Conditions of the BTNT Token Sale should not acquire BTNT tokens.
Important disclaimer

This white paper shall not and cannot be considered as an invitation to enter into an investment. It does not constitute nor should it be considered as an offering of securities in any jurisdiction. This white paper does not include or contain any information or indication that might be considered as a recommendation or that might be used as a basis for any investment decision.

BTNT Tokens are hybrid tokens, according to the FINMA definition, since they have the nature of utility tokens that the users can use in relation to the services offered by the BTNT platform, as well as the nature of payment tokens, according to the specifications given in the White Paper.

In any case, BTNT tokens shall not be intended to be used as an investment.

The offering of BTNT tokens on a trading platform is done in order to allow the use of the BTNT platform and not for speculative purposes. The offering of BTNT tokens on a trading platform does not change the legal qualification of the tokens, which remain a simple means for the use of the BTNT platform and are not a security.

BitNautic Sagl is not to be considered as an advisor in any legal, tax or financial matters. Any information in the white paper is provided for general information purposes only and BitNautic Sagl does not provide any warranty as to the accuracy and completeness of this information.

BitNautic Sagl is not a financial intermediary according to Swiss law and is not required to obtain any authorization for Anti Money Laundering purposes.

Purchasing BTNT tokens shall not grant any right or influence over BitNautic Sagl’s organization and governance to the purchasers.

Regulatory authorities are carefully scrutinizing businesses and operations associated to cryptocurrencies in the world. In that respect, regulatory measures, investigations or actions may impact BitNautic Sagl’s business and even limit or prevent it from developing its operations in the future. Any person undertaking to acquire BTNT tokens must be aware of the BitNautic Sagl business model, the white paper or terms and conditions may change or need to be modified because of new regulatory and compliance requirements from any applicable laws in any jurisdictions. In such a case, purchasers and anyone undertaking to acquire BTNT tokens acknowledge and understand that neither BitNautic Sagl nor any of its affiliates shall be held liable for any direct or indirect loss or damage caused by such changes.

BitNautic Sagl does not provide any guarantee that it will manage to achieve it. They acknowledge and understand therefore that BitNautic Sagl (incl. its bodies and employees) assumes no liability or responsibility for any loss or damage that would result from or relate to the incapacity to use BTNT tokens, except in case of intentional misconduct or gross negligence.