## DART

# Digital Assets Risk and Trustworthiness Assessment





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## PROJECT INFORMATION

### **Peaq Network**

**Project Category**: DePINs

Official Website: https://www.peaq.network/

Blockchain/Platform: Polkadot network.

**Brief Description**: Built on Polkadot, Peaq is a layer 1 blockchain network that enables a decentralized "Economy of Things," where machines autonomously manage and monetize themselves. Peaq does so by leveraging Polkadot's features, and optimizing itself for DePINs and Machine Real World Assets, which in turn, creates an infrastructure for devices to securely transact and share data, fostering innovation in mobility, energy, and smart cities.

**Prelude**: This review presents the risk factors associated with the given project and provides an analysis and respective overall risk rating as per a prescribed methodology.



## TEAM COMPOSITION

## The Peaq Network team is comprised of the following individuals:

#### Max Thake, Co-Founder:

Max is one of the Co-Founders of Peaq, he is also the Co-Founder and CMO of a company that incubated and developed web3 projects focusing on the link between the internet of things (IOT) and the economy of things (EOT), a member of the Forbes Technology Council, and the former Head of Marketing of a web3 incubator.

#### Leonard Dorlöchter, Co-Founder:

Leonard is one of the Co-Founders of Peaq, and he is also the Chief product officer at EoT Labs, advisor at EWOR, Penomo, and 21 Oaks Capital GmbH, and former Head of Product at Advanced Blockchain AG. Leonard holds a Bachelor degree from Technische Universität Berlin.

#### Till Wendler, Co-Founder:

Till is one of the Co-Founders of Peaq, and he is also the CEO & Co-Founder of EoT Labs, along with his previously mentioned peers. He is also an advisor at Penomo, as well as the former Head of Operations at Advanced Blockchain AG, and former CEO at Axiomity AG. Wendler holds a B.A. in Business administration from Cal State.

#### Rohan Ranjan, Full-Stack Developer:

Rohan Ranjan has been a full-stack developer at Peaq Network for two years as well as holding the same role for EoT Labs. His extensive experience includes prior developer roles at companies that included BlockC School, SDE, Masai School, showcasing his versatility and depth in full-stack development and blockchain development.

#### Martin El-Khori, Head of Ecosystem and BD:

Martin is the Head of Ecosystem and BD at Peaq Network as well as at EoT Labs, he previously worked as a Business Mentor for DePIN at Outlier Ventures, he was also the former Head of Investments at Bertelsmann Investments, a former board advisor for Greenfield Capital, an editor at ZDF HEUTE, as well as other prior roles.

#### **Jack Gundrum**

Jack is a Technical Support Engineer at Peaq Network as well as a Junior Blockchain Support Engineer at EoT Labs, and has held various positions including a former board member at Badger Blockchain and a software engineer coop at Sub-Zero Group, Inc. Jack holds a B.Sc. in Computer Science from the University of Wisconsin, Madison.

#### Talha Dar, Rust Engineer:

Talha Dar is a Rust Engineer at both Peaq Network and EoT Labs, with over a year of experience in both of these roles. He previously worked as a Rust Engineer at InvoZone and a Blockchain Developer at ScytaleLabs. Talha earned his B.Sc. in Computer Science from the University of Central Punjab.

#### Anastasia V, Head of Ops:

Anastasia is the Head of Operations at Peaq Network and EoT Labs. She has previously served as Chief Operating Officer at Metagaming, and Metaverse Game Studios. In addition, she has held prior operations roles at different companies. Anastasia holds a B.Sc. in Applied Psychology from the South African College of Applied Psychology.

#### Maria Doycheva, Recruitment Lead:

Maria is the Recruitment Lead for both Peaq and EoT Labs, a position she has held for over two years. Previously, she worked as a Business Developer at Advanced Blockchain. Maria holds a Master's degree in International Marketing from the International University of Applied Sciences.

#### **Edward Gbagi, Head Moderator:**

Edward serves as the Head Moderator at Peaq Network, a role he has held for over a year. He was also a part-time community manager at MovEX.exchange. Edward earned his B.Sc. in Computer Science from YABATECH, Nigeria.

## TEAM COMPOSITION

# The Peaq Network team is comprised of the following individuals:

#### Nadia Finko, Public Relations specialist:

Nadia serves as a Public Relations specialist at Peaq Network and EoT Labs. Her previous roles include Media Relations Associate at ReBlonde and Editor at Finversia, and a former intern for the Russian news outlet, Russia Today (RT). Nadia holds a Master's degree in Journalism from Mirzo Ulugbek Nomidagi Uzbekiston Milliy Universiteti.

#### Other team members include:

Michael Ganser (Peaq Foundation Board Executive), Scott Bourke Jr. (Growth Lead), Michael Geike (Non-Executive Director), and Igors G. (Communications).

### **TFAM**

#### The Peaq Network team structure

The Peaq Network team is structured with specialized roles across key functions. Rohan Ranjan and Talha Dar focus on full-stack and Rust engineering, respectively, driving the technical development. Martin El-Khori leads ecosystem and business development, while Maria Doycheva handles recruitment. Edward Gbagi manages community moderation, Jack Gundrum provides technical support, and Anastasia V oversees operations, ensuring smooth day-to-day functions. Nadia Finko manages public relations to enhance the network's visibility. Michael Ganser is a seasoned CEO with a long track record of guiding technology companies in different high-level capacities, which helps guide the organization in their vision. The granular involvement of the Co-Founders mentioned above was not explicitly identified, which may indicate a collaborative approach in how the organization is run.

#### The Peaq Network supporters

The Peaq Network is trusted and supported by the following: BOSCH, AIRBUS, NTT, Mastercard, and Continental.

#### The Peaq Network connections

The Peaq network has verified partnerships with the following projects: bloX.move, Wicrypt, NATIX, Brainstem Digital Health, ELOOP, 2blox, Silencio Network, penomo, MapMetrics, Arkreen, Wingbits, AYDO, Wayru, PowerPod, and Acurast.

The team is weaved with EoT Labs. This connection indicates that the project can leverage the knowledge and resources and potential competitive advantages stemming from this organization dubbed as building the "Economy of Things" and port it to Peaq Network which is melding the latter with Real World Asset (RWAs) technology. Both of these organizations appear to be the offspring of Advanced Blockchain AG—hence many of the team member's shared prior experience at this investment and incubator— which is a publicly traded company in different German exchanges, and further strengthens their credibility.

#### The Peaq Network concerns

While there is evidence of trust from reputable companies like BOSCH, AIRBUS, NTT, Mastercard, and Continental, and verified partnerships with several projects, there are gaps in publicly available information about the team members. The absence of comprehensive Peaq network team members details on the official website, and the lack of additional documentation to substantiate the claimed experience and educational backgrounds, adds to this uncertainty. These inconsistencies make the overall verifiability of the team and their credentials somewhat limited, despite the network's association with known entities and projects.

However, multiple team members were noted to have hailed from Advanced Block AG, indicating a further strong nexus to the incubator and team cohesion. This, along with having a team with diverse roles and backgrounds, as well as very good backers, supporters, and prominent connections, adds to the Team's strong credibility and breeds trust in the eyes of prospective users and investors.

## **GITHUB & CODE QUALITY**

With more than 300 followers and more than 75 repositories, several publicly listed members, and open-source code, the repositories showcase a strong level of engagement and interest from the developer community. The good number of contributors, commits, and pull requests, as well as the use of multiple languages, including JavaScript, TypeScript, Rust, and Python, indicates a broad and modern tech stack, and the consistent contributions, high commit frequency, and pull requests reflect active development and maintenance. Additionally, the good quality of the documentation makes the codebase accessible and usable for developers, which is a hallmark of a well-managed open-source project. These key indicators demonstrate that Peaq Network is committed to open-source best practices, making it a reliable and credible platform in the blockchain space.

## SOCIAL MEDIA & COMMUNITY

#### Community size and activity

At the time of writing, the Peaq Network boasts a sizable and active community across various platforms. On X, the project has over 180,000 followers and more than 2,000 posts, with good engagement metrics such as likes, comments, and reposts. However, the occasional lack of responses to user questions is a concern. While this could be attributed to the high volume of interactions, it leaves a gap in direct communication, which is crucial for maintaining community trust. On Telegram, the project has 9,000 subscribers, though the channel is read–only, which limits interaction.

#### Quality of interactions

The read-only setup of Peaq Network's Telegram channel, despite its high engagement through post reactions, presents a barrier for real-time support and interaction. While this configuration effectively prevents scams and phishing attempts, it restricts users from seeking immediate assistance, which could be frustrating for those needing help. On YouTube, with over 27,000 subscribers and more than 40 videos, the channel shows decent viewership, but lacks meaningful community engagement in the form of thoughtful comments. Discord offers a more positive environment, with over 80,000 members and strong, timely interactions between admins and users.

#### Red Flags and Risks

One significant red flag is the absence of an official Reddit handle, which increases the risk of unofficial and potentially fraudulent accounts impersonating Peaq Network. This oversight could lead to user confusion and damage the project's reputation if not addressed. While Discord has a dedicated scam-report channel and effective admin intervention, the presence of 17 server bots may require careful management to ensure genuine user interactions are not diluted by automated responses. Without an official presence on Reddit, the project leaves itself vulnerable to misinformation and fraud, posing a potential risk to its community.

## **BUSINESS MODEL**

Peaq is building a decentralized platform designed to support applications for machines like vehicles, robots, and devices across various sectors, positioning itself for growth in automation and AI markets. As a Layer 1 blockchain, it leverages Polkadot's infrastructure, allowing it to scale up from its current 10,000 transactions per second (TPS) to potentially over 500,000 TPS, all while maintaining low transaction costs and sustainability. This scalability, combined with low costs and eco-friendliness, strengthens its economic and ecological sustainability.

peaq's business model focuses on creating a community-owned ecosystem where the value generated by machines is equitably shared among participants. By supporting popular coding languages and ensuring interoperability with major blockchains, it simplifies development and broadens appeal. The platform incentivizes activity through token use for governance, machine staking, and transaction fees, creating a self-sustaining economic cycle that supports growth and profitability. The clear strategy, which involves advanced technologies and reliance on Polkadot's robust infrastructure, emphasizes innovation, scalability, and community engagement, positioning Peaq strongly for long-term expansion and resilience.

By having strong backers and connections, as well as a team with experience, the business model appears to be promising since it is in the burgeoning field of Real World Assets, which large institutions have been slowly moving towards.

## CONCLUSION AND SCORE

#### Conclusion

Based on the comprehensive review of Peaq Network, the project demonstrates a robust foundation in several critical areas, with notable strengths in its business model and code quality. The network's business model is particularly compelling, showing strong growth potential and significant value to users through its innovative approach to the decentralized "Economy of Things." Furthermore, Peaq's code quality is well–supported by high activity and adherence to industry–standard practices, reflecting a commitment to open-source excellence.

However, the review also highlights areas for improvement. The team, while experienced and competent, has good industry experience overall, with gaps in publicly available information about some key members, and some of which may have not been identified. This could affect transparency and stakeholder and investor confidence. Additionally, while the community is active across various social media platforms, engagement quality and direct communication with users could be enhanced, particularly addressing the lack of real-time support on Telegram and the absence of an official Reddit presence.

#### Score

Due to the aforementioned reasons, Peaq Network has achieved **five out of five stars**. This indicates a high level of transparency, a solid team, a proactive community, a sound business model, and strong code practices. The project is well-positioned for future success, especially as it continues to build on its partnerships with reputable companies and enhance its decentralized infrastructure. Potential investors and users are encouraged to monitor the project's ongoing developments, particularly in the areas of team visibility and community interaction, to make well-informed decisions. As always, conducting personal due diligence and staying updated through official channels is advisable.

# CONTACTUS

https://polkadot.antiscam.team/ contact@antiscam.team <u>Discord Community</u>



