

## Caspian's trading volume continues to surge

---

Monthly trading volumes on Caspian's full-stack crypto trading, portfolio and risk management platform have been consistently over \$1billion for the last few months. A clear indication that previously trigger-shy institutional investors may now be looking more intently at opportunities to trade, casting aside memories of 2018's horror "winter of crypto".

"The industry had a rocky start to the year, however confidence rebounded significantly in the last few months and the institutional sector will continue to grow. Since the launch of Caspian we are proud to have incorporated a steady flow of institutional clients and exchanges onto our platform," Caspian Managing Director Chris Jenkins said.

This comes after Caspian's announcement in June that it would release trading volumes monthly in a push for greater transparency in the institutional crypto market.

"We have seen a significant number of recent reports detailing fake volume and trading figures. As a company that is focused upon building up the crypto market for institutional grade investment we felt it was necessary to issue our true and unaltered volumes so the market can now measure real institutional participation," Caspian CEO Robert Dykes said.



"We will continue to publish our volumes on a monthly basis via our website in the hope of providing a consistent and factual view of the market."

For June, the inaugural set of figures released, Caspian's trading volumes sat at \$1.068 billion, up 85% from \$578 million in April 2019. The last few months have continued at the same level, with a peak to \$1.8billion traded in August. The Caspian platform was launched in March 2018, with trading volumes for Q2 2019 up 207% on Q1 2019.

Gabriel Wang, the digital asset analyst at AITE group noted, "Caspian's growth in volumes is a great illustration of the shift into digital assets by the institutional investment community, which is a trend long anticipated and one we expect to continue."

Today, Caspian provides a single interface into over 30 spot exchanges and 7 derivative exchanges from a single interface, a complete suite of sophisticated trading algorithms, real-time and historical P&L and exposure tracking and professional customer service.

## When will the trillion-dollar club take the crypto plunge?

---

When an internal memo revealed that BlackRock was reshuffling its top brass as part of a move to prioritize its higher-fee paying alternatives investments business, some financial services industry watchers wondered if the world's largest money manager be might ready to formalize its interest in cryptocurrency.

It was in mid-2018 that BlackRock CEO Larry Fink first set tongues wagging by telling Reuters that the \$6.5 trillion manager was a "big student of blockchain". At the same time media reported that BlackRock had set up a working group tasked with investigating cryptocurrencies like bitcoin and the blockchain technology that underpins them.

Other institutional investors are also eyeing off opportunities in the burgeoning digital asset sector on the back of strengthening prices. After 2018's horror "winter of crypto," which was marked by heavy losses, bitcoin has doubled so far this year, and is now sitting around \$8,150 per bitcoin. According to a recent survey by Fidelity Investments, 47% of institutional investors view digital assets as having a place in their investment portfolios, and about 22% already have some exposure to digital assets.

One of the major problems with the sector remains the need to place assets in custody at multiple exchanges, and, the associated risks and security of those platforms. Whilst there are some players entering the prime brokerage type space, the ability for institutional investors to quickly and reliably move assets is still a substantial barrier. Clearer regulation continues to be a major hurdle for more regulated entities.

More positively for the sector, institutional-grade custody solutions, which in the past were lacking, have started to arrive. In 2018, Fidelity became the first big name to enter the crypto custody space when it announced it was launching a separate company called Fidelity Digital Asset Services to provide institutional clients, like hedge funds and family offices, with custody for cryptocurrencies including bitcoin.

For its part BlackRock still remains coy about its plans for crypto, but with Fidelity's research finding that four in ten respondents are open to future investments in digital assets over the next five years, what is certain is that investors will be seeking forward looking financial players to work with as the crypto investment infrastructure advances.

## Lendingblock partners with Caspian

---

In July, Lendingblock, the regulated, open exchange for institutional borrowing and lending of digital assets, announced its partnership with Caspian, paving the way for digital asset borrowing and lending to be scaled by institutions globally. The integration between Lendingblock and Caspian will allow institutional investors that use Caspian's order-execution management system across both digital assets and traditional capital markets the opportunity to access cryptocurrency lending markets for additional yield-enhancing opportunities. Banks, market makers, hedge funds, asset managers and trading firms can now facilitate lending and borrowing across multiple digital assets for arbitrage, short selling, working capital purposes and managing inventory, amongst other strategic needs. Investors can also use Lendingblock's risk free lending yield curve as a data point to evaluate true price discovery of key assets. "Despite volatility seen across the cryptocurrency market over the course of the year, crypto lending is something that has continued to boom. Providing Caspian clients with access to a regulated, secure and transparent crypto to crypto lending exchange is closing an important gap in the market for institutional investors," said Mr. Dykes. "Once live, Caspian clients will have access to additional liquidity through Lendingblock's cryptocurrency lending markets and the ability to use stable coins as principal and collateral.

## Caspian Launches Crypto Pairs Trading Functionality

---

In August, Caspian announced the launch of its pairs trading functionality, paving the way for funds to use the popular statistical arbitrage and relative value-based strategies to grow their business.

Currently in use by several clients, Caspian's market-leading price-spread and price-ratio pairs algorithms enable funds to trade pairs using coins on any of the 35 exchanges Caspian is currently connected to, with coins and derivatives on the same or different exchanges.

"Rather than taking a longer-term view on the value of any currency, firms with the correct technology are profiting from the temporary market inefficiencies that exist when the same coin is being traded on multiple exchanges at different prices. This is like what we saw when electronic trading of equities began to take off," said Chris Jenkins, Managing Director, Caspian.

Key features of Caspian's pairs trading capabilities include the ability to:

- Trade spot, futures and perpetual swaps on one or both legs of the pair;
- Link in-house signals or bots to the pairs algorithms through the Caspian inbound API;
- Run many "spreads" in parallel utilizing on-screen dashboard alerts to help capture alpha across many exchanges at once;
- Fine tune the various algo parameters to control the aggression levels on each leg taking into account the differing liquidity levels across exchanges;
- Set rules to automatically control hedge risk in a granular way;
- Reduce pair set-up times by cloning existing pairs and opening new pairs from dedicated watchlists; and Monitor order progression slice-by-slice and amend Pairs orders on-the-fly.

The Caspian OEMS has been live for over 18 months and the pairs trading functionality went into production in recent weeks and is available out-of-the-box for all Caspian OEMS clients.

## Launch WhatsApp, Telegram and more in your trading view

---

Users of the Caspian OEMS now have access to an expanded dashboard, and, can supports popular third-party chat platforms such as WhatsApp and Telegram.

The new developments allow the system to support an array of third-party analytical widgets including economic calendars, forecasts, earnings, news and research.

This systems will allow users, for example, to view research and trade on a particular stock in one simple and unified view. When the user switches between orders, the dashboard tab is then automatically updated with the relevant information correlated to that order.

Additionally, Caspian OEMS users now have access to call time and sales data in their main trading view showing a detailed account of trading activity for a particular security. This will enhance the user's ability to conduct real time technical analysis on their orders and ultimately improve trade decisions.

## Enhanced access to pricing information

---

Traders looking for easier access to information for the purposes of guiding best-value order destinations during the trading process, will be happy to read about a new update to the Caspian OEMS platform. With the introduction of a trades blotter inline order execution chart, our clients now have a birds-eye view over execution data across multiple venues. This tool will show what percentage of an order was executed across each liquidity venue, along with the performance of the execution, giving users the power to make more informed decisions. For crypto trading, orders can be executed across one exchange or multiple venues. By using the blotter's functionality users can easily see the percentage being executed in each venue and the performance in each venue. This view allows traders to see which venue will execute with a better price, allowing them to make place more with the greater quality venue.

While this information was available previously on the Caspian OEMS, users no longer need to drill down or double-click, and instead use the trades blotter inline order execution chart for a quick view on the quality of their execution

## Balances, exposure and exposure based post-trade compliance for crypto assets

---

Caspian OEMS users can now see their exposure and balances in real time, as a way of avoiding orders being rejected by the exchanges when trying to trade more than what they own. This platform update triggers post-trade exposure-based alerts when certain exposure thresholds are breached due to price volatility. Previously, Caspian's position management system (PMS) held information on balances and client positions, but they weren't available in the OEMS.

This has now changed with client position, balances and exposure are now visible in the OEMS to guide decision making before trading. Caspian OEMS users can now for example increase or decrease balances relative to current values ahead of execution. This update to the Caspian OEMS also assists with post-trade compliance for times that traders would like to be alerted when certain exposure thresholds or corridors are breached after they have traded.

---

Caspian is a full-stack crypto-asset management platform tying together the biggest crypto exchanges in a single interface, so as to facilitate investments in crypto instruments for newcomers and veterans alike. The joint venture between heavyweights Tora and Kenetic brings to the table a wealth of experience in asset management, accumulated over decades of building and operating trading platforms and technologies.

CASPIAN.TECH



**Robert Dykes**  
Chief Executive Officer



**Gerritt Van Wingerden**  
Managing Director



**Chris Jenkins**  
Managing Director

For more information,  
contact us at [info@caspian.tech](mailto:info@caspian.tech)