STATE OF DECENTRALIZED INFRASTRUCTURE: 2022

Escape Velocity Rocket fuel for networks.

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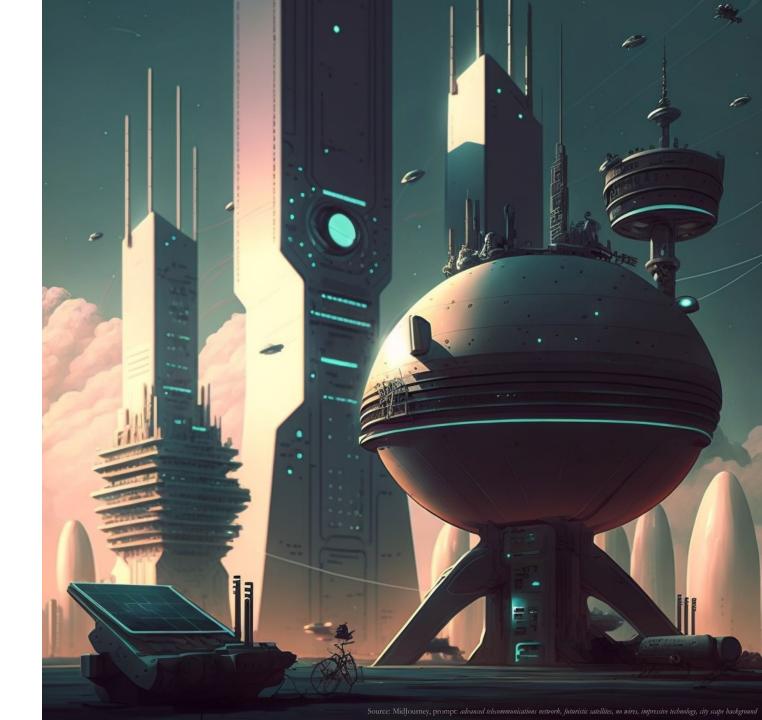
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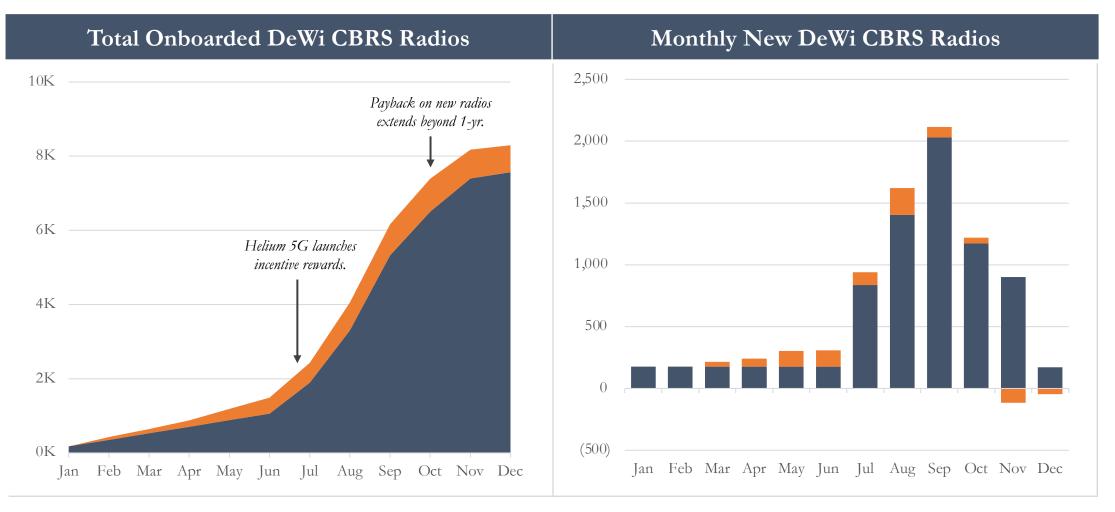


DeWi = Decentralized Wireless.

Unbundling the telecommunications industry.



In 2022, DeWi Networks Deployed 8K+ CBRS Radios, Representing \$20M+ Of Miner Investment.



Sources: Helium and Pollen block explorers and APIs, Escape Velocity research; as of 12/16/22. Note: please see disclaimers on final page. Helium data unavailable before Jun'22 (chart assumes straight-line growth from Jan'22).

■ Helium

Pollen

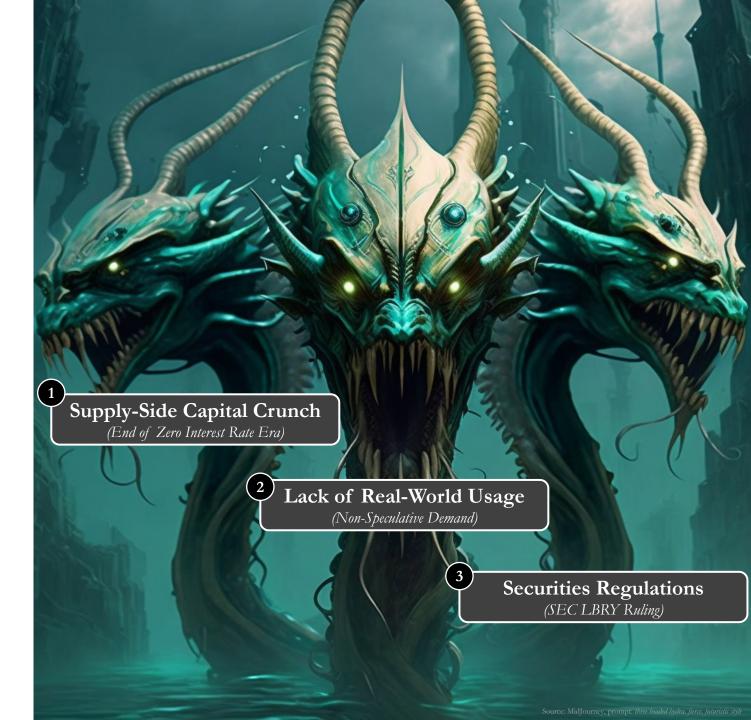
DeWi Is Spreading Across Chains & Geographies: Most Major "Economies" Are Home To At Least One Project.

Solana	Polygon	Polkadot	Cosmos
\$5B Mkt Cap & \$250M TVL	\$7B Mkt Cap & \$1B TVL	\$5B Mkt Cap & \$250M TVL	\$2.5B Mkt Cap & \$1B TVL
Solana Mobile			
Solana Mobile Stack & Android phone (Saga) coming early 2023; will support Helium		Launched testnet Q4'22; mainnet coming early 2023	11
Ø Mobile			althea
Chain migration to Solana and MVNO launch coming early 2023	Launched on Polygon (Matic) mainnet Q4'22	P Nodle	Launched Althea mainnet Q4'20; Launched Gravity Bridge Q1'22
POLLEN		Launched Nodle Cash app in 2020; Won parachain auction in Q1'22	
Launched on Solana mainnet Q1'22			



Sources: Project websites, announcements, and whitepapers, Coinmarketcap, DeFillama, Escape Velocity research; as of 12/16/22. Note: please see disclaimers on final page.

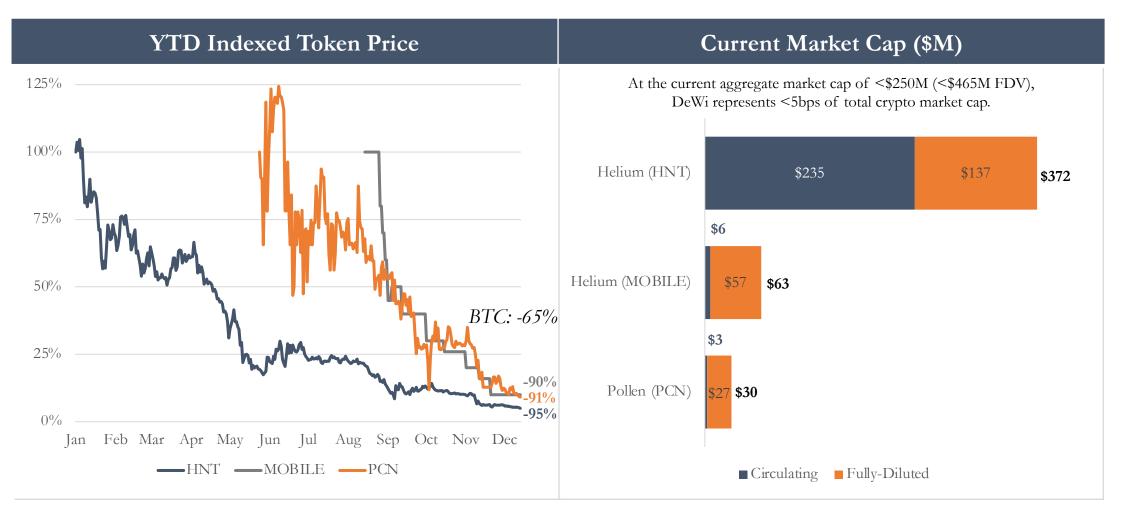
But To Fulfill Its Potential, DeWi Must Overcome Three Existential Challenges.



<u>Challenge #1</u>: Supply-Side Capital



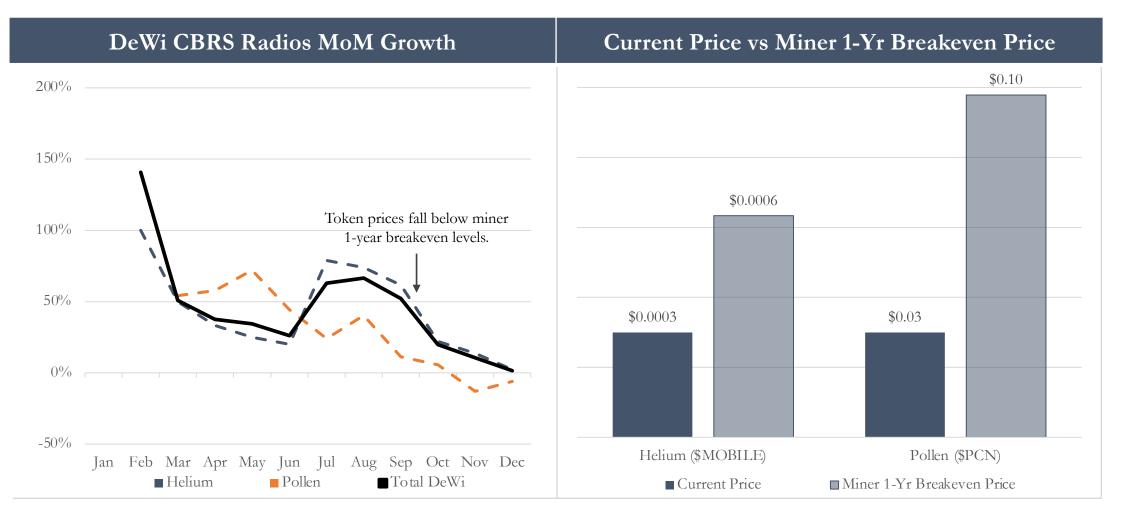
DeWi Token Prices Fell 90-95% YTD, Creating Attractive Opportunities For Investors But Bleak Returns For Miners.



Sources: Coinmarketcap, Helium and Pollen documentation, Helium and Solana block explorers, OTC telegram chats, Escape Velocity research; as of 12/16/22. Note: please see disclaimers on final page.

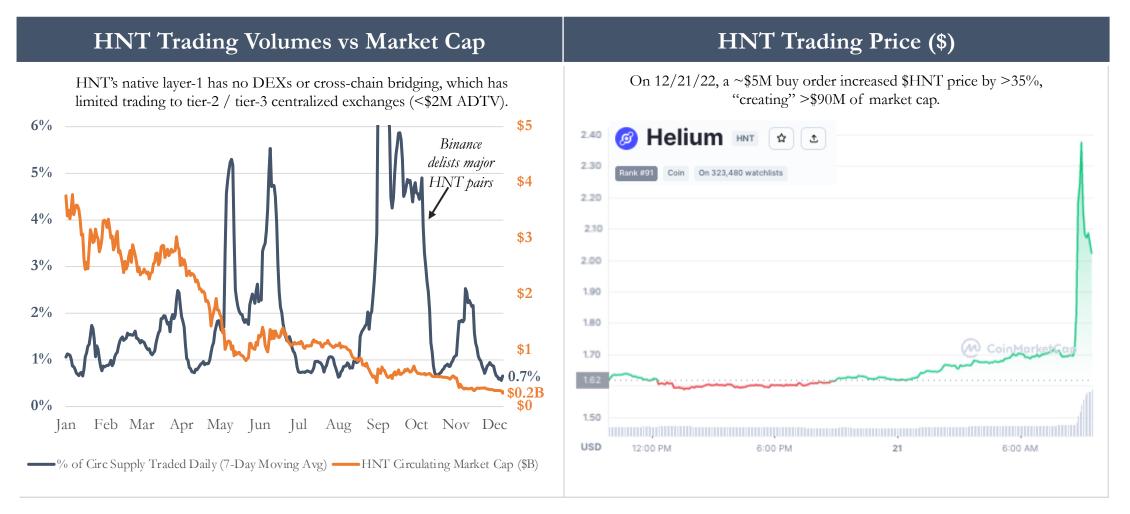


In Q4'22, Network Growth Ground To A Halt As Token Prices Fell Below Miners' 1-Year Breakeven Levels.



Sources: Coinmarketcap, Helium and Pollen explorers, Escape Velocity research; as of 12/16/22. Miner 1-year breakeven represents the price needed for miners to reach 1.0x payback based on token rewards in 12 months, assuming zero residual value; expense assumptions are representative of large scale mining operations. Note: please see disclaimers on final page. \$MOBILE price shown at a factor of x100 for purposes of the chart.

But Current "Prices" Are Based On Extremely Thin Trading Venues With Minimal Liquidity.



Supply-Side Capital

1

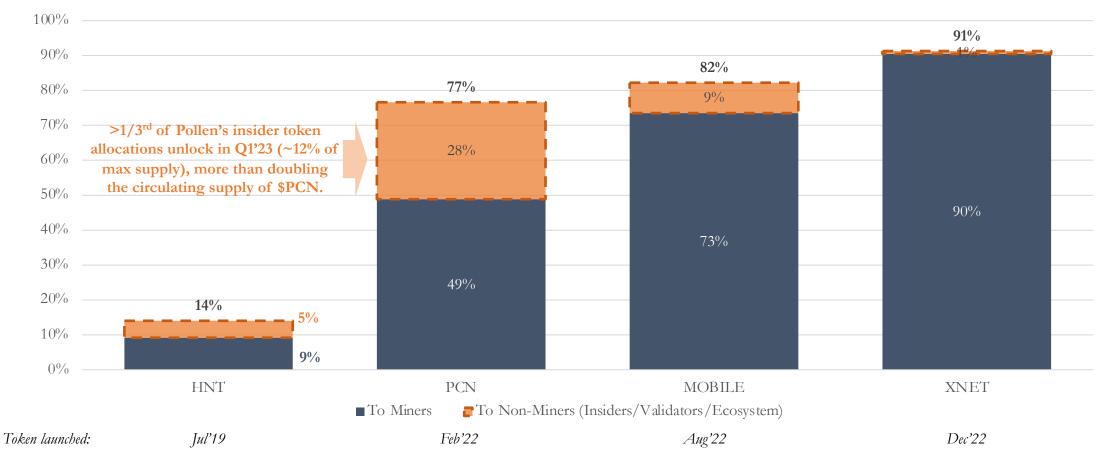
For New Token Launches, Bootstrapping Initial Liquidity Is Even Tougher.

	Ø Mobile	XNET
 \$PCN Token launched Feb'22 on Solana; first DEX listing May'22 Original DEX, Serum, compromised by FTX issues Nov'22; new DEX, Raydium, compromised by hackers Dec'22 (PCN pool unaffected) Current DEX TVL of \$15K a \$2K trade moves prices >20% 	 Token launched Aug'22 on Helium's native L1; planned migration to Solana in early 2023 Only exchange listing is on Hotbit, a tier-2 offshore centralized exchange, since Oct'22 Primarily trades OTC in community-run telegram groups, against both HNT and USD Unclear what (if any) premium \$MOBILE should trade to its treasury value of \$HNT 	 Token launch and first DEX listing in Dec'22 Current DEX, Quickswap (Polygon), has TVL below \$5K OTC markets still nascent
• OTC markets exist but are also highly illiquid Raydium PCN-USDC $ \begin{bmatrix} 34K & & & TVL (\$) \\ 5.5K & & & TVL (\$) \\ 17K & & & & TVL (\$) \\ 17K & & & & & & \\ 8.5K & & & & & & \\ 0 & & & & & & \\ 0 & & & & & & \\ 22/11 & 26/11 & 30/11 & 04/12 & 08/12 & 12/12 & 16/12 & 21/12 \end{bmatrix} $	<section-header><section-header><section-header><section-header><section-header><section-header><section-header><section-header><section-header><section-header></section-header></section-header></section-header></section-header></section-header></section-header></section-header></section-header></section-header></section-header>	TVL (\$K) \$4.853K Dec 21, 2022 \$3.649K \$3.117K \$3.047K \$2.444K \$1.842K \$1.842K \$1.842K \$3.81 \$3.9 Nov 30 Dec 3 6 9 12 15 18 21

Sources: Protocol websites and announcements, block explorers, OTC telegram chats, Escape Velocity research; as of 12/16/22. Note: please see disclaimers on final page.



Insider Token Unlocks Could Further Exacerbate Liquidity Challenges In 2023.



2023E Token Dilution

Sources: Helium, Pollen, and XNET documentation, Escape Velocity research. *Note: please see disclaimers on final page.* 1

DeWi Networks Are Beginning To Put Their Own Spin On 2020-Era DeFi Primitives To Accelerate Growth.

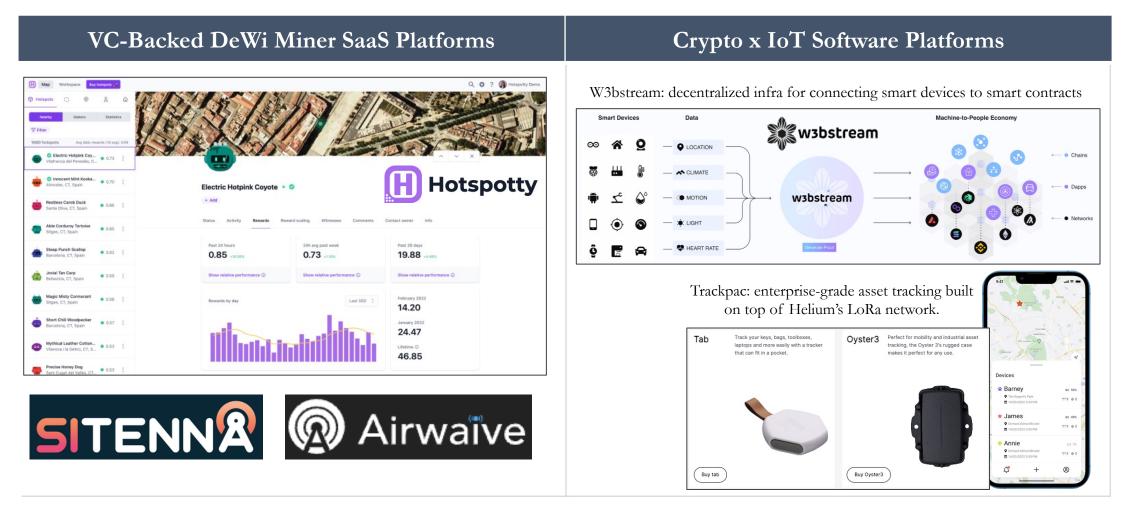
DeWi Airdrops	DeWi Vampire Attacks		
Hvemapper (\$HONEY) and Dimo (\$DIMO) airdrops rewarded >4K wallets in the first three weeks.	For only \$1K, XNET's Marconi Gateway turns any Helium/Pollen radio into an XNET radio, earning \$XNET instead of \$HNT/\$PCN. Image: Comparise of the state of		

on the XNET network. This package includes: One (1) XG1 Marconi Gateway ...

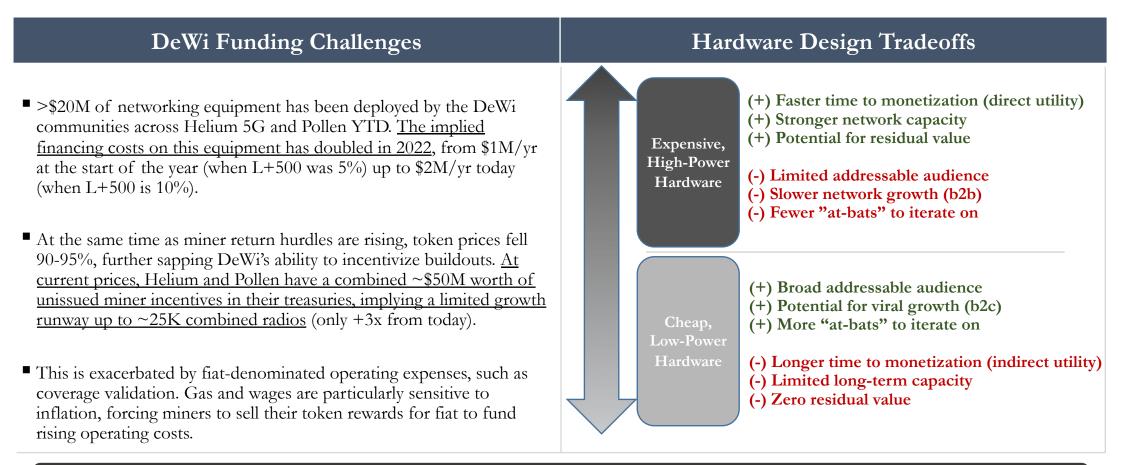
D



DeWi Software Platforms Reduce Friction For Miners, Increasing The Efficiency Of Supply-Side Capital.



The Challenge: Incentivizing Community-Owned Infrastructure In A Post-ZIRP (Zero Interest Rate Policy) World.



While Both Strategies Can Work, High-Powered Deployments Will Be More Resilient In Crypto Bear Markets.

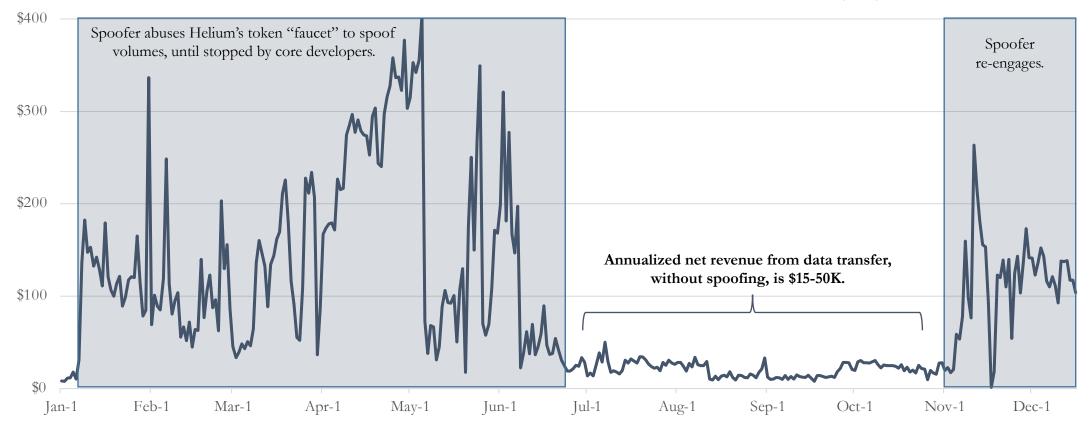
Supply-Side Capital

<u>Challenge #2</u>: Real-World Usage

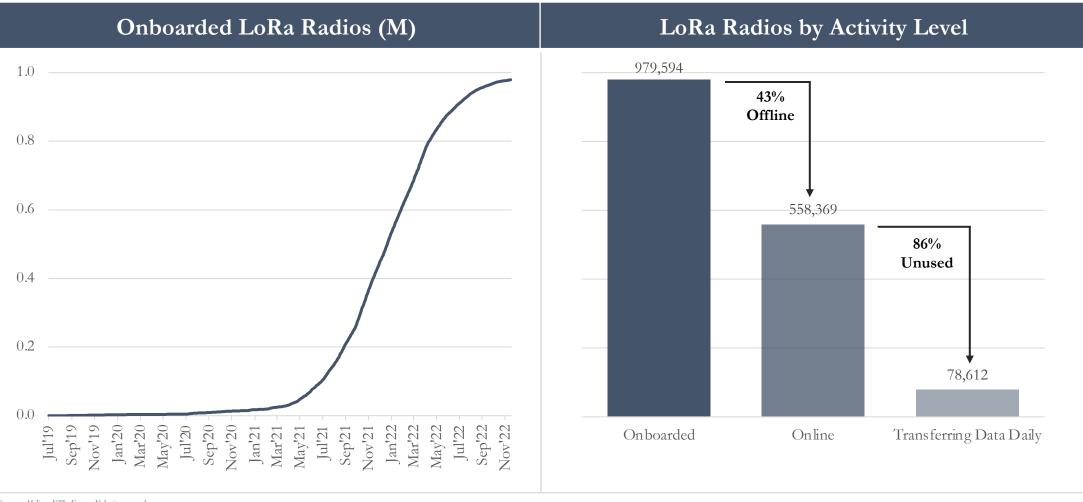


Organic Demand For DeWi Tokens Has Proved Elusive: Helium's LoRa Network Generates <\$50K/Yr in Net Revenues.

Helium LoRa: Annualized Data Transfer Net Revenue (\$K)



In Fact, Only ~8% of Helium's 1M LoRa Hotspots Transfer Data On Any Given Day.



Sources: Helium ETL, Escape Velocity research. Note: please see disclaimers on final page.



There Are Some Signs – Like Rewards Gaming – That Suggest DeWi Will Face Similar Challenges In CBRS As In LoRa.



While On-Chain Data Can Be Spoofed, We See DeWi Providing Valuable Coverage With Our Own Eyes.

Pollen Deployments	XNET Deployments	
<image/>	<image/>	



One Path To Real-World Usage Involves Moving "Up The Stack", Serving Consumer Directly For The First Time.

B Mobile

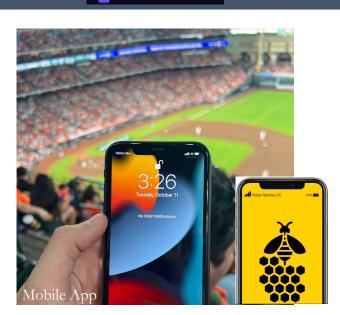




- Open-source mobile stack built on Android with integrated Solana wallet
- Phone pre-orders available in 33 countries since Jun'22; shipping "early 2023"
- Partnership with Helium Mobile



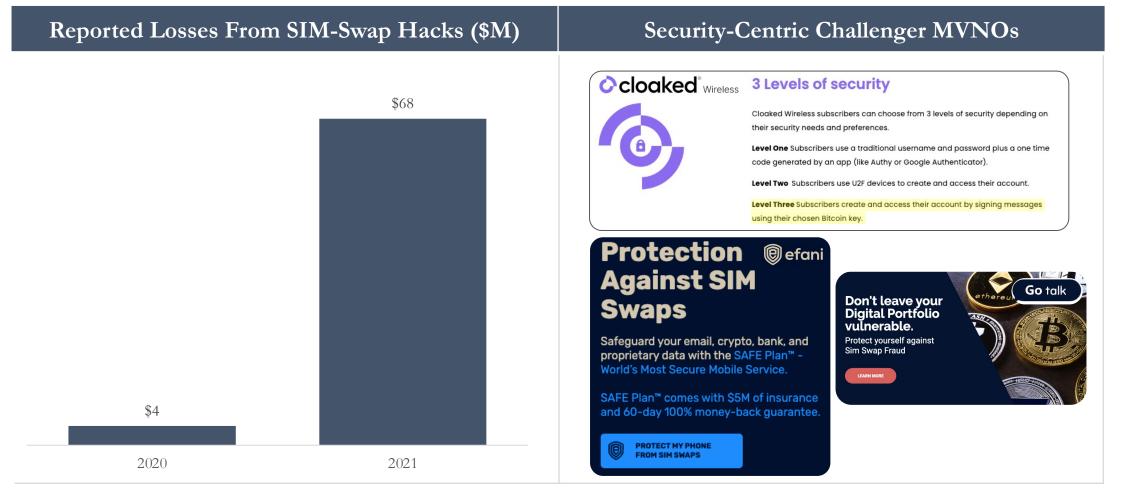
- Data-only MVNO with plans as low as \$5/mo (for 1GB/mo)
- Helium rents wholesale capacity from T-Mobile outside Helium coverage
- Shipping "early 2023"



- Mobile app where users earn rewards for validating coverage on the Pollen network
- Live coverage from third-party deployments (i.e., miners)... including the 2022 ALDS in Houston
- >1 TB/day of live data transfer



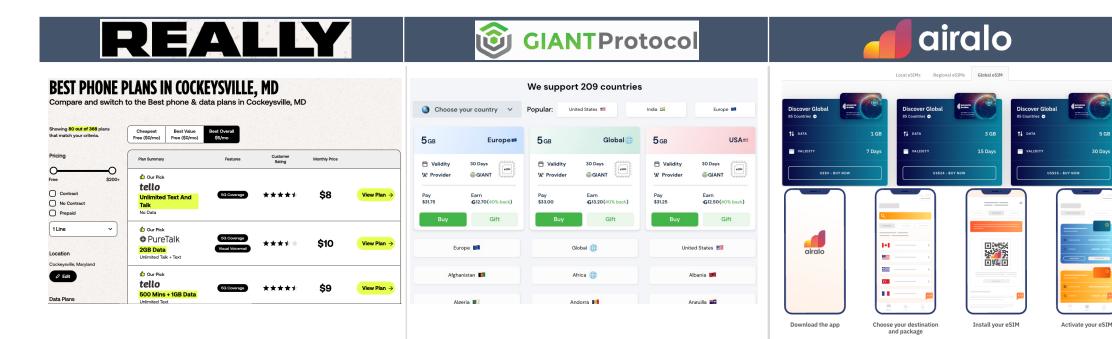
Emerging Threats, Like SIM-Swaps, Create Opportunities For New Crypto-Native Mobile Brands.



Sources: Federal Bureau of Investigation, company websites, Escape Velocity research. 2020 figure represents average reported SIM swap losses over 2018-2020. Note: please see disclaimers on final page.



DeWi Aggregators Use Tokens To Drive Value To Customers In New Ways, Strengthening Their Own Network Effects.



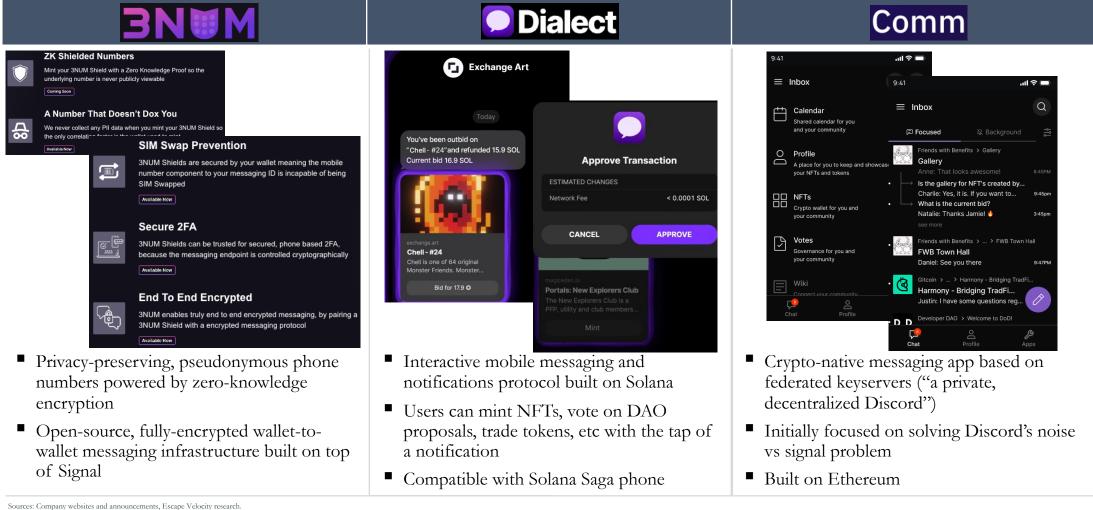
- Phone plan aggregator/comparison site across hundreds of MNOs and MVNOs
- Users enter their zip code and see eligible plans; monetized via referral links
- DeWi plans coming early 2023

- Global pool of connectivity providers, where users can buy airtime privately via their crypto wallet
- Early users earn up to 40% back in tokens
- Mainnet coming early 2023

- eSIM aggregator for travelers, providing coverage in 190+ countries
- Announced partnership with GIANT protocol in Oct'22
- 1M+ users (>3x growth in 2022)



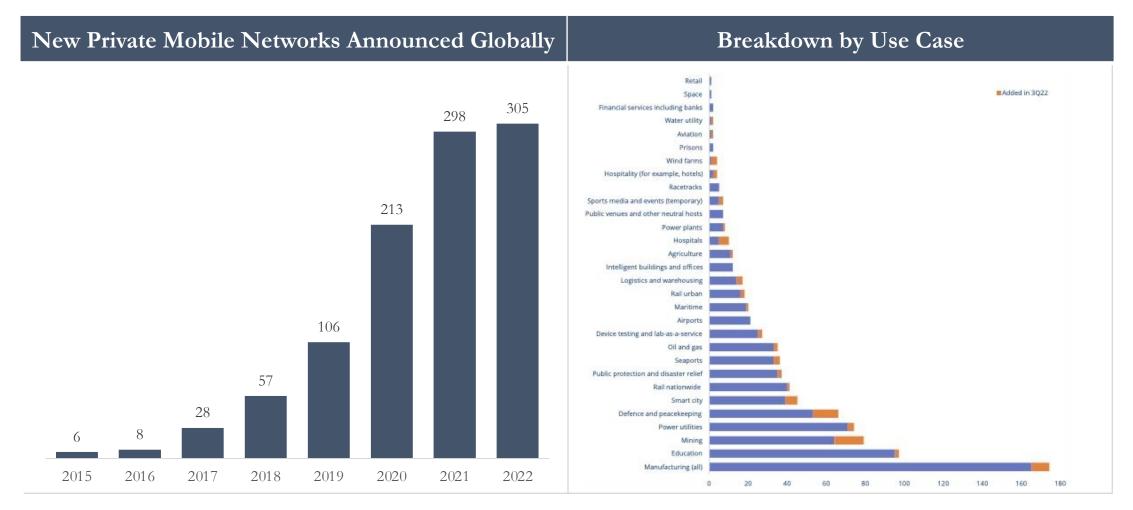
Messaging Apps Bridge The Gap Between Connectivity, Identity, & Social.



DeWi For Fixed/Home Internet – Another Viable Path To Data Transfer – Will Come Onto The Scene In 2023.

Fixed vs Mobile Internet Comparison			Challenger Fixed Wireless ISPs	
	Mobile	Fixed	& ANDRENA ≜ Login ■ Contact Us Welcome to your new Internet	
Connection Type	Person-to-Person	Place-to-Place	High-speed Internet, at a fraction of the cost Starting at \$25 per month	
Number of Connections in the US	300M+	125M+	 Month-to-month First month free 	
(x) Monthly Revenue Per-Connection	\$85	\$50	No hidden fees	
Annual Revenue TAM	\$300B	\$75B	Siglo Pide hoy el internet rápido	
(%) Monthly Usage Per Connection	15 GB	500 GB	30 días de Internet Prepago en tu casa x \$399 MXN \$399 MXN \$200 para tu próxima recarga	
Implied Revenue per GB	\$5.50	\$0.10	different distribution models, given customers pay 50x less 15 dias x \$210 7 dias x \$110 Image: Comparison of the state of the stat	
Customer Churn	Low	Super Low	per-GB than in mobile. 25 a 60 Megas iPedir mi internet! Cancélalo cuando quieras.	

Private Cellular Networks – The Focus Of Pollen Mobile's GTM – Are Growing Rapidly Across A Stunning Range Of Use Cases.



Sources: GSA Private Mobile Networks report Dec'22, Escape Velocity research. Note: please see disclaimers on final page.



The Challenge: Unlocking Real-World Use Cases That Drive Organic (Non-Speculative) Protocol Revenue.

Ø Mobile		XNET
Hybrid MVNO	Private Networks	Carrier Offload/Roaming
 Helium acquires and serves customers directly, acting as their mobile carrier 	 Independent operators deploy private cellular networks for their own purposes 	 Independent operators deploy networks in areas with known telco network deficiencies
 Customers use Helium's proprietary network whenever available, and T-Mobile's elsewhere 	 Individual deployments can, but don't necessarily, interoperate with national telcos 	 End-users automatically offload data traffic when in range, via wholesale agreements
(+) Direct customer relationships can be expanded into profitable new products.	(+) Tailwinds from the rapid growth and diversification of private cellular networks.	(+) Multi-billion \$ revenue market with highly-motivated buyers on day one.
(-) Acquiring mobile customers is a prohibitively expensive way to scale.	(-) TAM is much smaller and more fragmented than mobile.	(-) Telcos' service requirements necessitate a higher level of protocol centralization.
(-) Helium pays expensive wholesale rates to T-Mobile during the bootstrapping phase.	(-) Customers can operate private networks without paying a "toll" to DeWi.	(-) Intermediated relationships with users limits long-term pricing power.

Sources: Company websites and announcements, Escape Velocity research. Note: please see disclaimers on final page.

<u>Challenge #3</u>: Securities Regulations





In November, US District Courts Supported An SEC Judgement Ruling Classifying \$LBC Token As Unregistered Securities.

LBRY Case Ruling

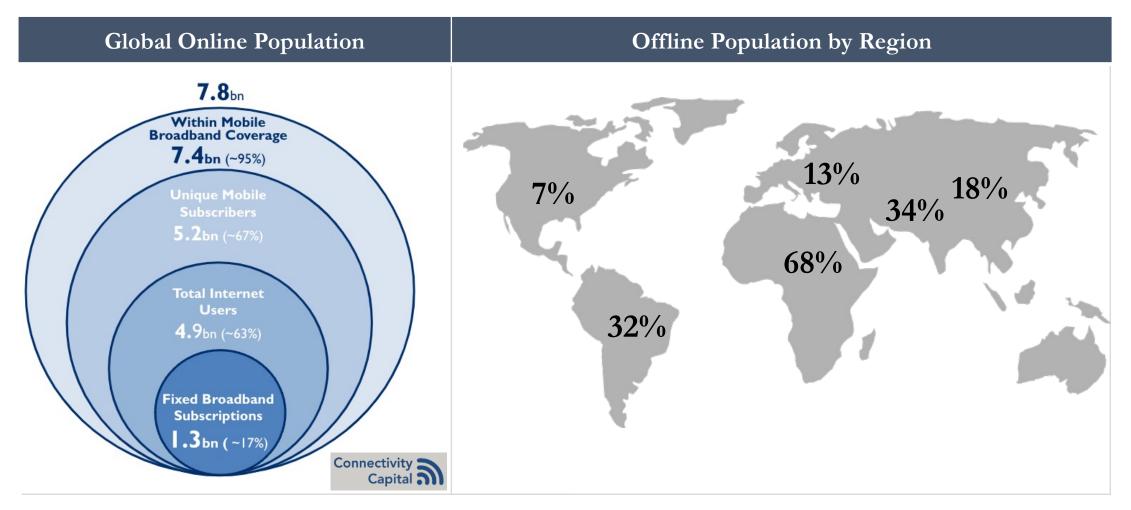
- LBRY is a decentralized video-sharing platform founded in 2015.
- Unlike most 2015-era projects, LBRY did <u>not</u> raise funds in an ICO (initial coin offering). Instead, tokens were sold to institutional investors and distributed to miners in exchange for useful work (e.g., hosting videos) in other words, largely the same setup used by DeWi networks today.
- In November, Judge Paul J. Barbadoro of the U.S. District Court for New Hampshire granted an SEC summary judgement supporting that LBRY offered and sold unregistered securities in violation of the 1933 Securities Act, despite never doing an ICO.
- The case rested on prong 3 of the Howey Test: whether a reasonable purchaser of tokens would expect to earn profits derived from the efforts of the company. Despite them marketing tokens for consumptive purposes, rather than investment purposes, the court ruled that LBRY's pre-mined insider allocation of tokens is enough to trigger the Howey Test.

Similar SEC Classification Could Potentially Apply To All Unregistered DeWi/PoPW Utility Tokens.

Escape Velocity

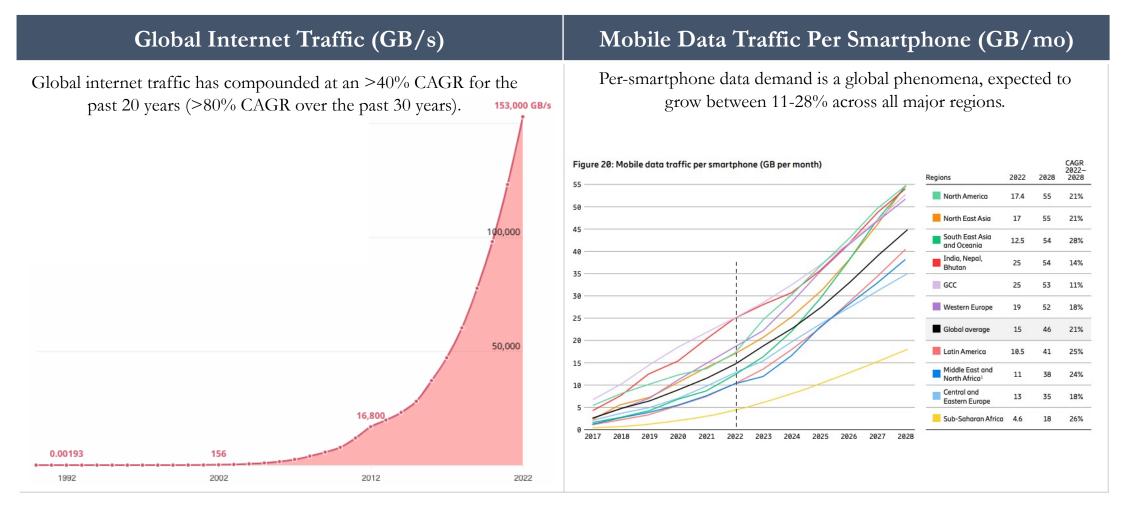
So, Why Build/Invest In DeWi?

<u>The Problem Is Massive</u>: Telecom Infrastructure Fails To Serve >1/3rd Of The Global Population With Dependable Internet.



Sources: ITU Measuring Digital Developments 2021, GSMA Mobile Economy 2021, Connectivity Capital Locally Owned Internet Infrastructure 2022, Escape Velocity research. Note: please see disclaimers on final page.

<u>The Problem Is Growing</u>: Per-Capita Internet Traffic Is Compounding At >25% YoY Everywhere Around The World.



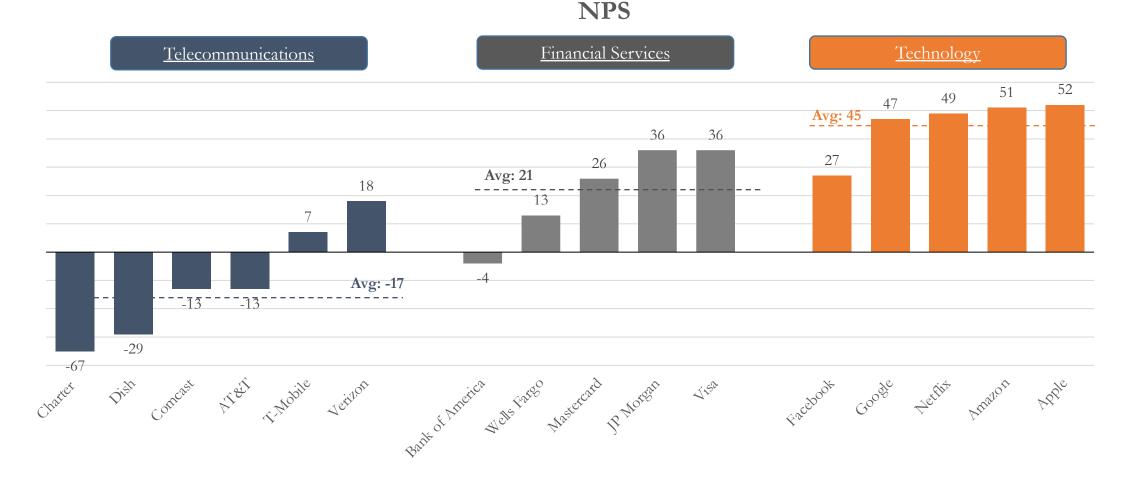
Sources: World Bank, Cisco Visual Networking Index 2017–2022, Ericsson Mobility Report November 2022, Escape Velocity research. Note: please see disclaimers on final page.

<u>The Size Of The Prize</u>: There's >\$1T Of Public Market Cap Across The Telco Value Chain In The US Alone.

TelCos: \$450B+ Public Market Cap

\$350B+ Annual Revenues	Low-Growth, >85% Penetration ¹	50% Asset Turnover	25-35% EBITDA Margin	7-9x s Fwd EBITDA	verizon' T Mobile 😂 at&t
CableCos: \$2	205B+				
\$190B+ Annual Revenues	Low-Growth, >85% Penetration ²	40% Asset Turnover	20-40% EBITDA Margins	7-9x Fwd EBITDA	COMCAST Charter desh
TowerCos: \$2	190B+				
"	>85% 2 Contractual Asset		>60% DA Margins Fw	18-25x d EBITDA	
Manufacturers: \$45B+ SoftwareCos: \$20B+					
"	<15% EBITDA Margins Fv	5X			<20%10-25xBITDA MarginsFwd EBITDAITDA MarginsFwd EBITDA

<u>Customers Want Change</u>: People Love Their Internet Apps, But Hate Their Internet Providers.



Sources: Comparably, Escape Velocity research. Note: please see disclaimers on final page.

<u>We Have The Tools To Build Something Better</u>: Industry-Grade Radios/Antennas Are Now Available For <\$10K.

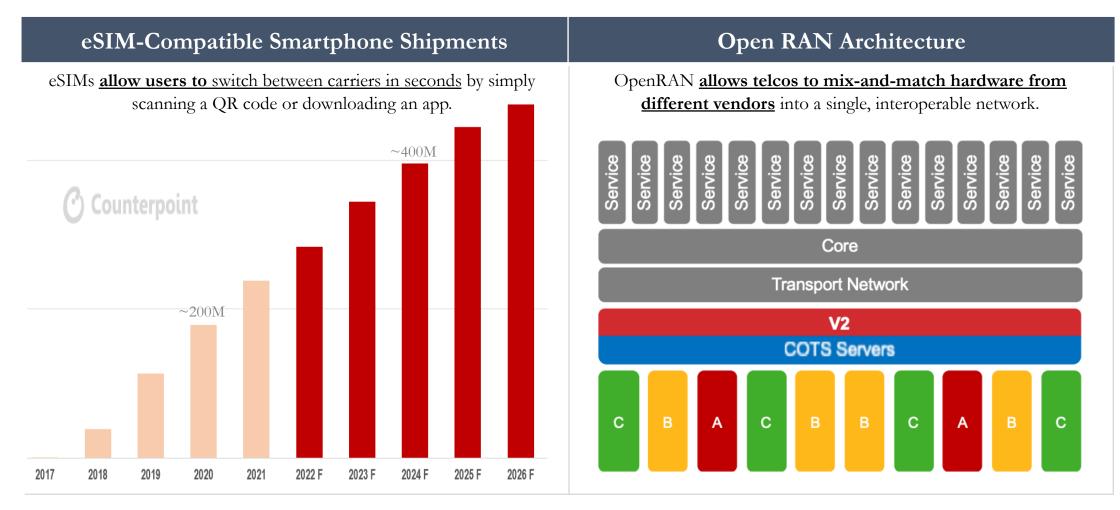


<u>Regulators Are On Our Side</u>: The FCC Is Unlocking More Spectrum Than Ever Before To Support American Connectivity.

MHz of Unlicensed Spectrum Available

2,500 —	FCC Ruling on CBRS:				
	I. INTRODUCTION AND EXECUTIV	/E SUMMARY	+CBRS		
2,000 —	1. With this <i>Report and Order</i> (Ruse of 150 megahertz in the 3550-3700 MHz by the history of the administration of one of our radio spectrum. ¹ Wireless broadband is transfo wirelessly connected people, apps, and things. it particularly well-suited for mobile broadband new Citizens Broadband Radio Service in this ever-increasing demands of wireless innovation collective goal of making 500 megahertz newly		+ <i>WiFi-6</i>		
1,000 —	intensive spectrum sharing. Our new rules use between commercial and federal users, exclusiv carrier networks. Starting from some of the rec Science and Technology (PCAST), these rules collected through three rounds of notice and co	ng technologies provide new tools to facilitate more these tools to dissolve some age-old regulatory divisions, ve and non-exclusive authorizations, and private and commendations of the President's Council of Advisors on incorporate a wide range of viewpoints and information mment. Over time, some of the approaches we advance in eater productivity in other parts of the radio spectrum.		2,100	
		+PCS	+WLAN		
500 —		+SUPERNet			
	+ISM	450	705		
0 —	235				
	1985-1997	1997-2004	2004-2020	2020+	

The Old Moats Are Dying: Interoperability, via eSIM & Open RAN, Creates Openings For New Entrants.



Sources: Counterpoint Research, Parallel Wireless, Escape Velocity research Note: please see disclaimers on final page.

<u>Neutrality Is Worth Its Weight In Gold</u>: 2020-2022 Geopolitics Highlight The Importance Of Neutral Telco Infrastructure.

CNN Exclusive: FBI investigation determined Chinese-made Huawei equipment could disrupt US nuclear arsenal communications

FECHNOLOGY NEWS AUGUST 17, 2020 / 7:33 AM / UPDATED 2 YEARS AGO

U.S. tightening restrictions on Huawei access to technology, chips

By David Shepardson

5 MIN READ

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WASHINGTON (Reuters) - The Trump administration on Monday announced it will further tighten restrictions on Huawei Technologies Co, aimed at cracking down on its access to commercially available chips.

"It is more dangerous to be dependent on Chinese telecoms networks than to be dependent on Russian gas. Digital infrastructure is the fundament of society," Strand said. Several weeks after taking over <u>Ukraine's southern port city of</u> <u>Kherson</u>, Russian soldiers arrived at the offices of local internet service providers and ordered them to give up control of their networks.

"They came to them and put guns to their head and just said, 'Do this,'" said Maxim Smelyanets, who owns an internet provider that operates in the area and is based in Kyiv. "They did that step by step for each company."

Russian authorities then rerouted mobile and internet data from Kherson through Russian networks, government and industry officials said. They blocked access to Facebook, Instagram and Twitter, as well as to Ukrainian news websites and other sources of independent information. Then they shut off Ukrainian cellular networks, forcing Kherson's residents to use Russian mobile service providers instead.

<u>So, Why Build</u> <u>In DeWi?</u>

For A World With Reliable, Efficient & Fair Connectivity For Everyone.

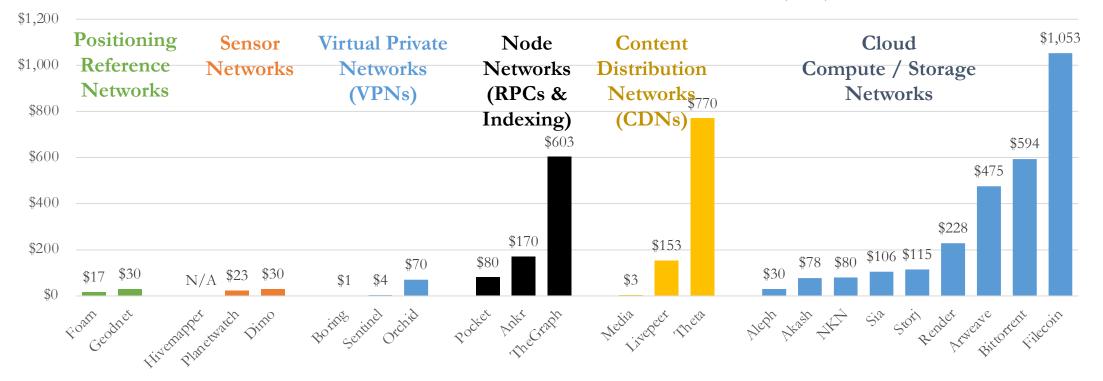


Escape Velocity

What About Other Types Of Infrastructure?

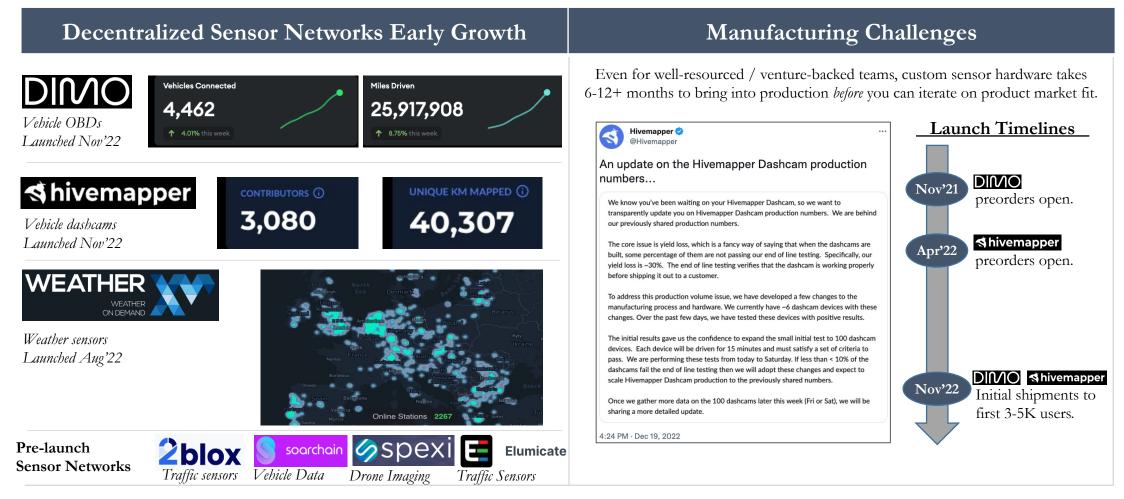
Outside DeWi, Entrepreneurs Are Building Many Types Of Decentralized Infrastructure — Both Physical & Digital.

FDV of Decentralized Infrastructure Tokens (\$M)



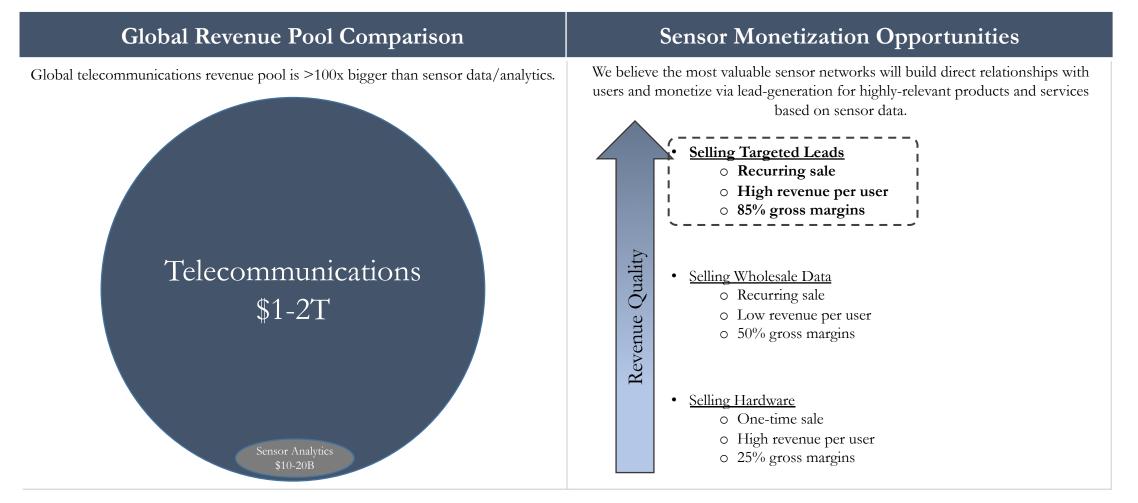
Many Tokens Are Trading At A Discount To Median Seed / Series A Valuations (Albeit On Small Volumes).

Decentralized <u>Sensor</u> Networks Show Promising Early Growth, But Must Overcome Hardware-Slow Iteration Cycles.



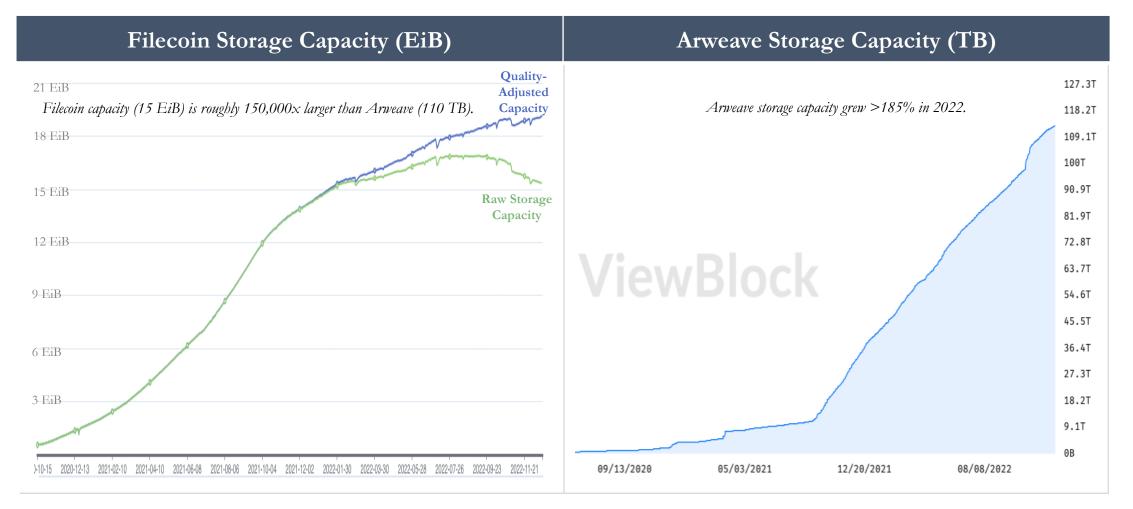
Sources: Protocol websites, announcements, and block explorers, Twitter, Escape Velocity research. Note: please see disclaimers on final page.

Now That Global <u>Sensor</u> Networks Are Feasible, The Question Becomes: What Could They Be Worth?



Sources: Escape Velocity research. Note: please see disclaimers on final page.

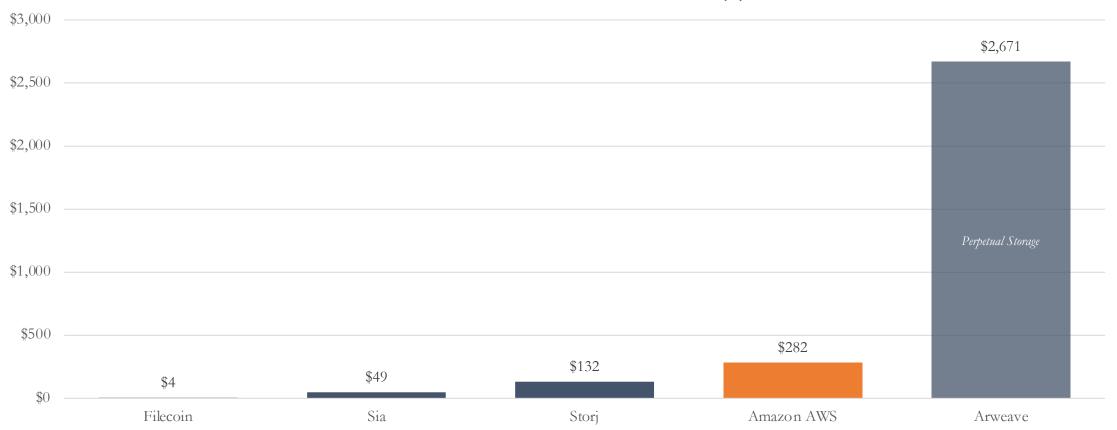
Like DeWi, Decentralized <u>Storage</u> Has Figured Out How To Scale Supply-Side Capacity.



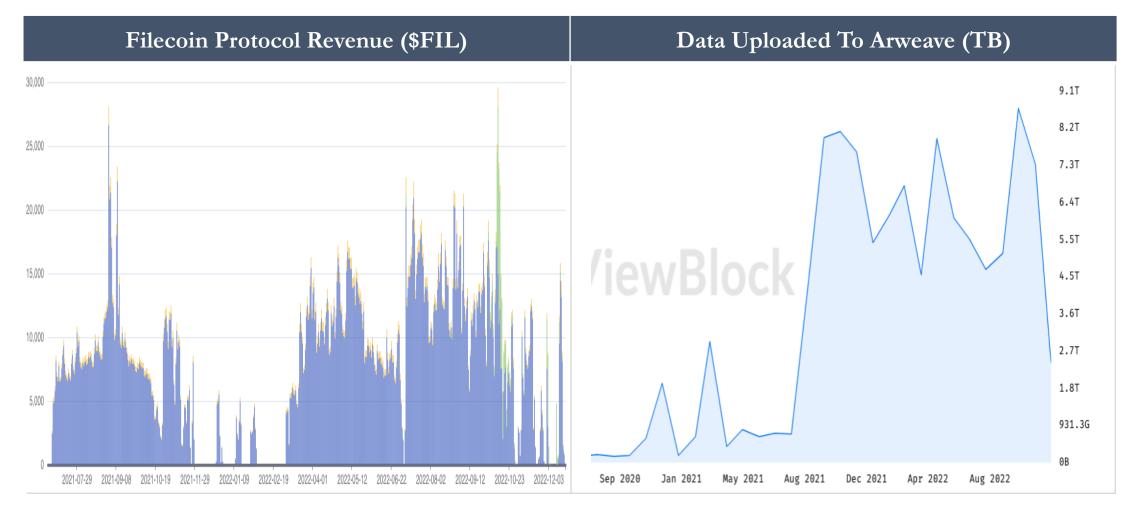
Sources: Starboard Ventures, ViewBlock, Escape Velocity research; as of 12/21/22. Note: please see disclaimers on final page.

Like DeWi, Decentralized <u>Storage</u> Can Both Compete On Price (Filecoin) And Enable Net New Use Cases (Arweave).

Price To Store 1 TB For 1 Year (\$)



Like DeWi, <u>Storage</u> Protocols Have Not Yet Demonstrated Signs Of Product-Market Fit In 2022.



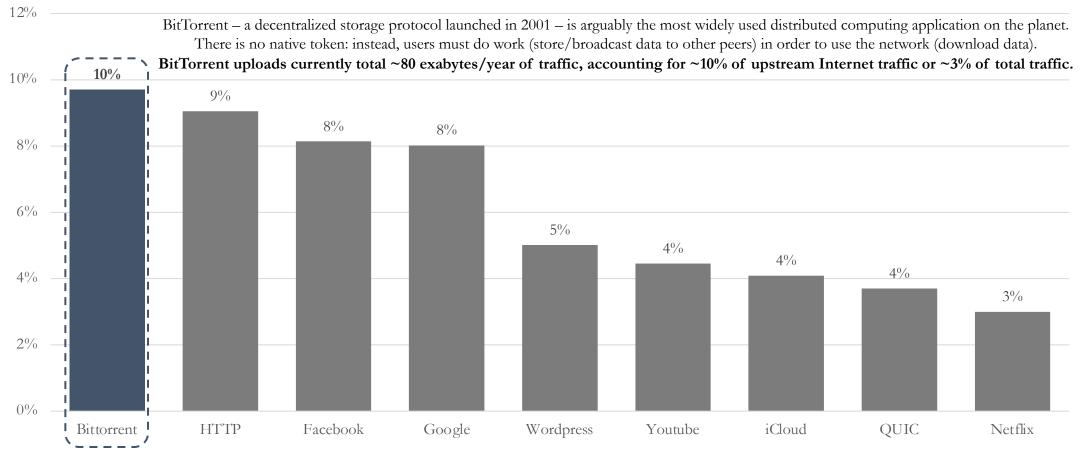
Sources: Starboard Ventures, ViewBlock, Escape Velocity research; as of 12/21/22. Note: please see disclaimers on final page.

That Said, Ecosystem Growth Suggests 2023 Could Be A Breakout Year For Decentralized <u>Storage</u>.

Decentralized Storage Partnerships		"Layer-2" Storage Businesses
 Sam.arweave.dev Sam.arweave.dev Major announcement: @Meta is now using Arweave to permanently store digital collectables from @Instagram. Instagram users are now able to issue digital 		Bundlr Network Scaling solution that processes >90% of data uploaded to Arweave; raised \$5M.
collectables for their Some thoughts	Filecoin Takes Blockchain Filing to New Levels With Lockheed Martin Partnership	Image: Second
(a) arweave	Filecoin's new partner will help the network launch a node into space By Brenden Rearick, InvestorPlace Financial News Writer May 24, 2022, 11:16 am EST Business	ordrive Frontend for Arweave protocols; raised \$17M.
6:40 PM · Nov 2, 2022 Read the full conversation 3.6K Reply 2 Co Read 13	AMD, Seagate and EY Join Protocol Labs-led Decentralized Storage Alliance The industry organization is led by Filecoin creator Protocol Labs. By Brandy Betz O Oct 31, 2022 at 7:00 a.m. EDT Updated Oct 31, 2022 at 11:59 a.m. EDT	filebase Frontend for Sia & IPFS protocols; raised \$2M.

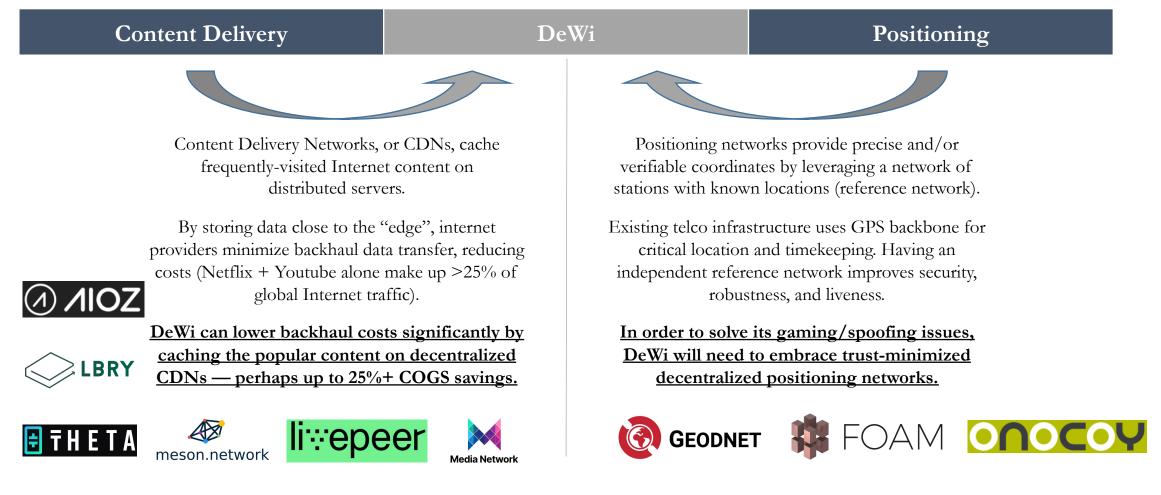
"De<u>Storage</u>" Growth Will Drive DeWi Growth: P2P Storage Is Already The #1 Driver Of Upstream Internet Traffic.

Share of Global Upstream Internet Traffic (%)



Sources: Sandvine Global Internet Phenomena Report Jan 2022, Escape Velocity research. Global internet traffic estimated at 3 ZB in 2020 per WorldBank and Cisco Note: please see disclaimers on final page.

Decentralized <u>Content Delivery & Positioning</u> Networks Will Also Grow Synergistically With DeWi.

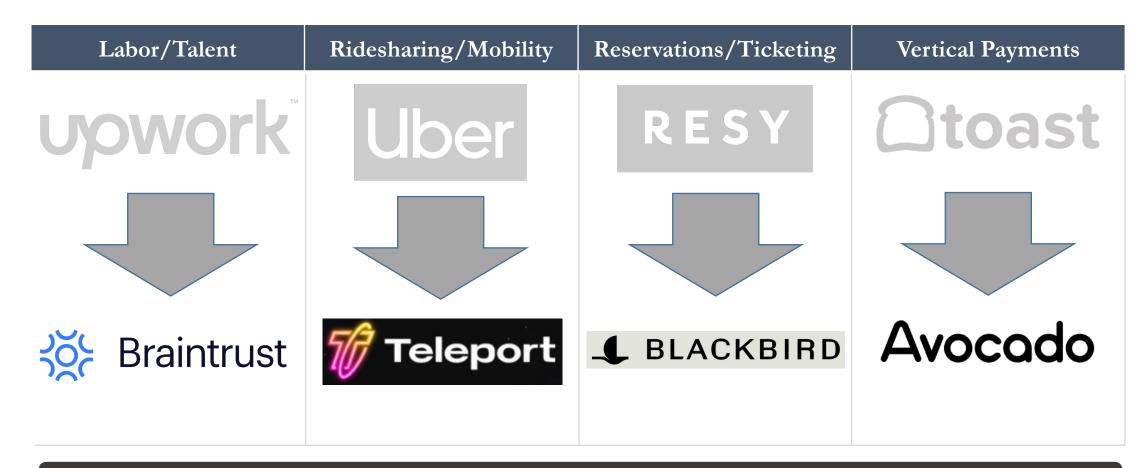


In Decentralized <u>Energy</u>, Several VC-Backed Projects Are Launching In 2023 Targeting A \$1T+ Global Profit Pool.



Sources: Company websites announcements, BCG, Gartner, McKinsey, WHO, Capital IQ, Coatue Oct'22 Fintech whitepaper, Escape Velocity research. Note: please see disclaimers on final page.

We Expect To See More <u>Web 2 Marketplaces</u> Flirt With Decentralizing Elements Of Their Business In 2023.



By (Partially) Decentralizing, Marketplaces Can Be Use Tokens Incentivize Key Stakeholders In New Ways.

Sources: Company websites, Escape Velocity research Note: please see disclaimers on final page.

Escape Velocity

Building Infrastructure Is Hard... Especially Decentralized Infrastructure.

Escape Velocity

For Those Up For The Challenge... We're Here To Provide The Fuel.

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