

20 March 2018

## **FIRST GROWTH FUNDS INVESTS IN BLOCKCHAIN SECURITY PLATFORM GLOBALGUARD**

### **Key highlights:**

- FGF expands investments in the Blockchain security sector with access to the first investment round in GlobalGuard.
- GlobalGuard is focused on protecting businesses worldwide from high-value cybersecurity damage and criminal threats including email malware, phishing and social engineering attacks.

**Sydney, 20 March 2018** – First Growth Funds Limited (ASX:FGF) is pleased to announce it has invested US \$100,000 in cyber security platform GlobalGuard which utilises Artificial Intelligence and Blockchain technology for enhanced threat detection.

GlobalGuard is being developed by Australia-based MailGuard – the world’s largest privately owned email security company with customers in over 27 countries. MailGuard has collaborated with Deakin University in Melbourne, Australia to develop GlobalGuard’s proprietary Artificial Intelligence (AI) security network.

“We are impressed by the team and the vision for GlobalGuard to become the next generation of cyber security and threat detection, operating on the Blockchain,” said FGF Chair Geoff Barnes.

The investment was introduced by ASX-listed DigitalIX, which is the corporate advisor to GlobalGuard. FGF was provided with a US \$100,000 investment in GlobalGuard’s first funding round, which was oversubscribed.

“GlobalGuard will leverage the past seventeen years of MailGuard threat data and IP, in combination with an artificially intelligent neural network, trained to detect cybersecurity threats,” said MailGuard CEO Craig McDonald.

The GlobalGuard technology will have applications in the cryptocurrency sector to protect against cyber criminals targeting digital assets.

FGF recently raised \$4.45 million in a placement to provide funding to facilitate acquisitions and investments in the Blockchain sector. The placement was led by Blockchain Global Limited. This investment in GlobalGuard is in line with the Company’s investment strategy as announced on 28 February 2018 and FGF will continue to review a number of opportunities in this sector currently being presented.

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### **About GlobalGuard**

GlobalGuard is a global ecosystem of cybercrime fighters using the power of next generation AI and Blockchain technology to defend businesses from criminal intent. It unites end-users, technology partners, cybercrime experts and vendors, on a living neural network, to identify and stop emerging threats immediately. GlobalGuard protects businesses worldwide from high value cyber security damage and criminal threats including email malware, phishing and social engineering attacks. [www.globalguard.io](http://www.globalguard.io).

### **About MailGuard**

Founded in 2001, MailGuard is now the world's largest private Software as a Service (SaaS) security company, delivering business-to-business email and web security to customers in 27 countries. MailGuard has agreements with the world's largest providers of email mailboxes and Internet security systems. MailGuard founder Craig McDonald is also the author of surviving the Rise of Cybercrime.

### **About First Growth Funds**

First Growth Funds manages a portfolio of investments covering small and medium companies listed on the Australian Securities Exchange or seeking investment ahead of an initial public offering. It was first listed on the ASX in 1986 (ASX: FGF), and was reinstated to quotation on 17 February 2015. In January 2018, it announced an intention to invest in quality Blockchain assets.

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