



## **Laser Digital receives Virtual Asset Service Provider Licence from Dubai's Virtual Asset Regulatory Authority**

Dubai, UAE, 1 August 2023: Laser Digital Middle East FZE, Nomura's Dubai-based digital asset subsidiary, announces today that it has received operating license approval from Dubai's Virtual Asset Regulatory Authority (VARA) completing the final stage in VARA's licensing process.

The grant of this operating licence permits Laser Digital to provide Virtual Asset (VA) Broker-Dealer Services and VA Management and Investment Services from its Dubai entity, which is led by Laser Digital's CEO Jez Mohideen, with Cameron Dickie as Head of Distribution.

With the new licence approval, Laser is set to launch their Trading and Asset Management businesses in the coming months, offering institutional investors OTC trading services and a comprehensive range of digital asset investment products and solutions.

**Laser Digital** was launched last autumn by Nomura and was co-founded by Steven Ashley, who previously led Nomura's wholesale division and Jez Mohideen, who was Nomura's Chief Digital Officer and Co-Head of Global Markets EMEA. Headquartered in Switzerland, with offices in Dubai and London, Laser Digital combines the rigor, best practices and capabilities from global investment banking with the experience of a crypto-native team.

**Jez Mohideen, CEO of Laser Digital commented:** *"We are very grateful to VARA for approving our Operating Licence. VARA's thorough and consultative process provides institutional investors with the assurance they require to engage in this asset class. With the licence now in place, we are looking forward to Laser's growth over the coming years."*

### **Contact:**

Sophie Arnold  
Head of Communications  
[sophie.arnold@laserdigital.com](mailto:sophie.arnold@laserdigital.com)

### **About Laser Digital**

Laser Digital is a digital asset business redefining the frontier of digital finance. Backed by Nomura, Laser Digital delivers scalable, robust opportunities across trading, asset management, and ventures. The team works at higher risk management standards, compliance, and commercial viability, all driven by a belief in more responsible engagement in digital assets. With an open and dynamic culture, Laser Digital has the freedom to adapt to market needs, to move swiftly to capitalisation, and to share learnings with clients and partners – bringing greater confidence to the institutional market for the benefit of all.

For more information, please visit: <https://www.laserdigital.com>