

BLOCKCHAIN IN THE ENTERPRISE



What is Blockchain?

Blockchain is a technology ecosystem where transactions or other records are documented concurrently across a widely distributed network of computers. The information is bundled into “blocks” of data, with each block cryptographically linked to the preceding block. The result is a secure chain — or ledger — that is transparent, chronological and immutable once recorded.


Untangling the Hype

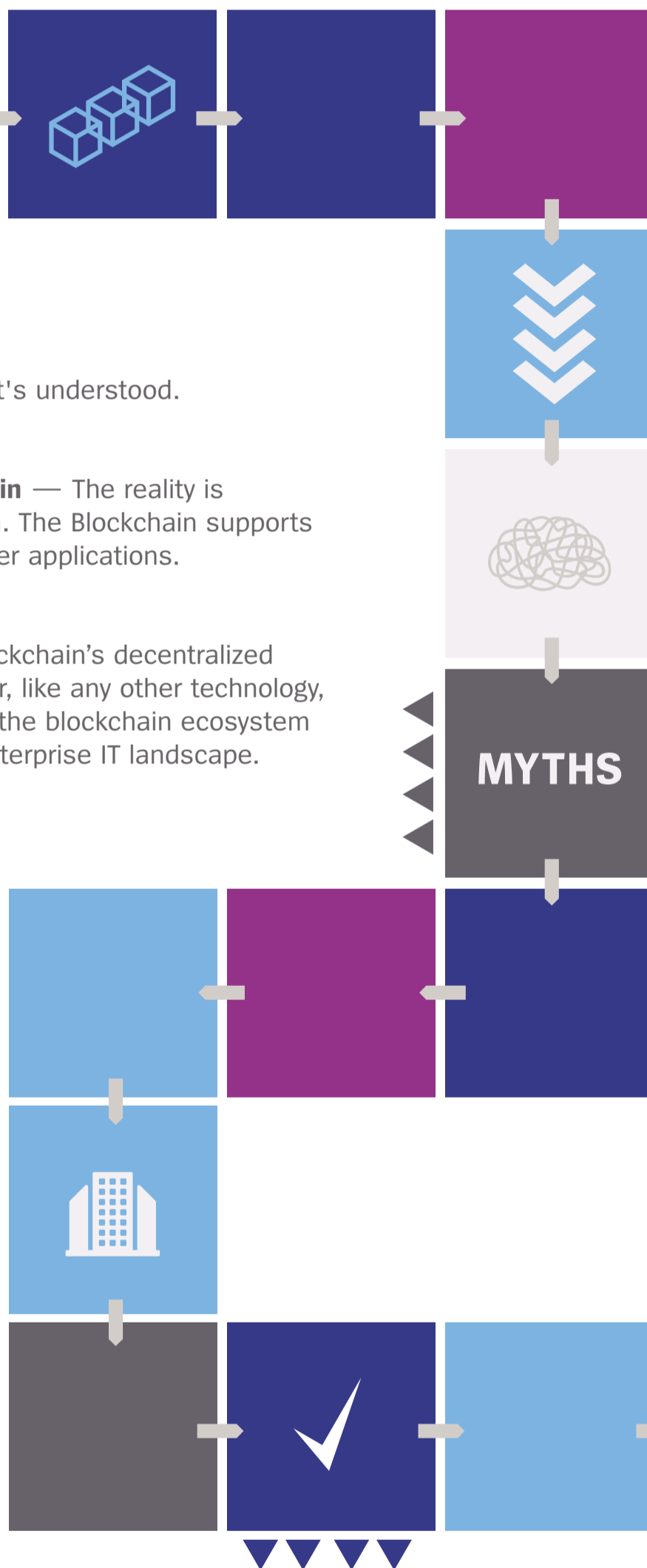
Blockchain is talked about far more often than it's understood. Here are a few myths to overcome:

-  **Myth #1: Blockchain is the same as Bitcoin** — The reality is Blockchain is the technology behind Bitcoin. The Blockchain supports many such currencies and has a lot of other applications.
-  **Myth #2: Blockchain is hack proof** — Blockchain’s decentralized nature makes it resistant to fraud. However, like any other technology, it is still susceptible to be compromised if the blockchain ecosystem is not properly secured within the larger enterprise IT landscape.

Getting Blockchain Enterprise-Ready

Challenges include:

-  **Speed** — Especially with large public blockchains, transaction rates can become too slow. Unisys is helping orient enterprises to much faster private blockchains.
-  **Technology Maturity** — Blockchain technology continues to evolve and shift. Unisys is helping enterprises stay current with ongoing improvements to enterprise-grade blockchain.
-  **Security** — Blockchain security and input validation remain key priorities. Unisys is helping clarify and secure blockchain’s role in larger enterprise architectures.



Potential Enterprise Benefits

Transparency via distributed ledger technology (DLT) for visibility across complex systems like:

- supply chain
- food safety
- record auditing
- intellectual property and other settings

Identity management to safeguard realms such as:

- identity fraud
- civil records
- private data
- or anywhere identity-related information needs to be protected and preserved

Smart contracts that are self-executing when predetermined conditions are met — with agreement terms written into lines of code. Smart contracts can help in settings like:

- insurance payouts
- cash equity trading
- intellectual property licensing

Blockchain Implementation Checklist

Here are a few things any large enterprise should consider when thinking about when, where and how to leverage blockchain — including partner selection:

-  **Make sure your blockchain partner has expertise not just in blockchain, but also in your specific business environments** — Blockchain is a technology approach that needs to be customized to your own business.
-  **Make sure your blockchain approach addresses the entire lifecycle of enterprise implementation and use** — Be holistic with implementation, from piloting projects for ROI, all the way to organization-wide integration and life cycle management.
-  **Leverage a microservices approach** — The latest container/microservices technology can help integrate many other cloud services — like AI, biometric security and advanced analytic engines — on top of blockchain.