

Noteworthy Metaverse Trends of 2023: Extending the 'Real' Reality

Remote work and education are two areas where the metaverse is expected to innovate in 2023, as well as virtual real estate, with projects such as Alpha City.

JERSEY CITY, NEW JERSEY, UNITED STATES, January 26, 2023 /EINPresswire.com/ -- 'Metaverse' has been one of the hottest buzzwords in the tech world over the last couple of years. There's been a fair amount of mystery surrounding its essence, from establishing virtual and augmented realities (VR/AR) to adopting digital



currencies and distributed ledger systems underpinning them. In reality, the metaverse has it all.

Before we dive into the most promising areas of application set to gain traction this year, let's take a closer look at the state of the market as it is today. According to one of the 'big-four' consulting giants, KPMG, top finance firms <u>estimate</u> that the metaverse could spur substantial value-generation processes in the next 10 years. According to Citi, the metaverse industry could top a whopping US\$13 trillion by 2030, while Goldman Sachs sees metaverses as an opportunity worth an estimated US\$8 trillion. At the same time, McKinsey puts this figure at US\$5 trillion.

Trend #1: Remote Work

The corona-crisis dealt a severe blow to economies worldwide. Unfortunately, many businesses of varying sizes were forced to cease operations and lay off their workers as a result. Those who survived needed to find a way to adapt to daunting economic conditions while remaining compliant with local lockdown regulations. Thus, they all adopted a remote-first policy, where meetings and negotiations were transferred from offices and coworking spaces to virtual rooms.

Remote work is where the metaverse could thrive and drive outstanding value, allowing for more personalized and immersive interactions among team members who are otherwise

disconnected from one another. On top of that, the metaverse realm could unlock the true potential of visualization much needed for planning and strategy development purposes, among others.

A huge leap in this sector was made mid-fall last year when Microsoft <u>announced</u> the upcoming partnership with Meta, poised to bring Microsoft Teams—as well as Word, Excel, PowerPoint, and Outlook—to Horizon Workrooms.

Trend #2: Education

Russia's war on Ukraine consolidated a swift response from democratic nations of the world. One pillar of that response is advanced weapon systems, which require extensive personnel training.

While most of that training is allegedly performed physically and on-site, once the metaverses have matured to a sufficient extent, they could be utilized for that purpose, amplifying the existing supply chains that are also used in a non-military context. Additionally, Artificial Intelligence (AI) and Virtual Reality (VR) are now widely used for training surgeons and pilots, and the switch to the metaverse could take things to a whole new level.

Trend #3: Virtual Real Estate

A trend that appeared a while ago and is expected to continue developing in 2023 is virtual real estate. Back in January last year, an anonymous investor spent almost half a million dollars on a plot of decentralized land in The Sandbox just to become a neighbour of the famous hip-hop artist Snoop Dogg.

Also last year, another well-known virtual real estate project, Decentraland, was used to hold a fashion week event that hosted the likes of Dolce & Gabbana and Estée Lauder. Everything was run on-chain, with fashion items purchased and put on as NFTs. Another example of apparel integration is a special jacket that was launched by Coca-Cola, wearable only on the Decentraland soil.

As for the hyperrealism of the venues, that's where newcomers such as <u>Alpha City</u> come into play, which is powered by Unreal Engine 5. Such projects could potentially allow brands to better showcase their product lines thanks to the immense depth of detail.

Other Trends

In its whitepaper dated June 2022, McKinsey lists several areas that are already seeing a boost from implementing the metaverse As a breakthrough innovation, the metaverse needs a comparable payment infrastructure to run under the hood, and such technology is blockchain. The two often come bundled, with crypto considered one of the building blocks of the metaverse and Web3, both of which strive for ultimate decentralization and transparency.

With the metaverse largely still in its infancy, the real question is, Will it be able to keep up with

the expectations?

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