26 Years Later, LimeWire Goes Rogue: BabyDoge Takes the Helm of the 2000s Legend

A Web3 ecosystem once valued north of $1 billion buys one of the internet's most infamous file-sharing brands, as its founders hand over the wheel.



BabyDoge ecosystem announces the acquisition of the legendary file-sharing platform LimeWire.

NEW YORK, NY, UNITED STATES, September 14, 2026 / EINPresswire.com/ -- The era of the sanitized internet is ending. BabyDoge - the Web3 ecosystem that once carried a market cap north of $1 billion, holds a Guinness World Record for animal-charity giving, and has rallied a community of 3 million+ users - has announced the acquisition of LimeWire, one of the most recognizable platforms in digital history. The deal marks a change of leadership and a shift in product direction.

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>
> *Abel Czupor*

The timing is not an accident. This year marks 30 years since John Perry Barlow published his "Declaration of the Independence of Cyberspace," and LimeWire itself is about to turn 26. In the 2000s, it was the file-sharing software of choice - arriving before the torrent protocols it would go on to compete with - until a landmark intellectual-property lawsuit forced it offline.

Brothers Julian and Paul Zehetmayr, who spent the last five years rebuilding LimeWire's technical foundation, are officially handing over the wheel. The platform now moves under the leadership of Abel Czupor and BabyDoge.

"LimeWire has always been bigger than the company behind it. Over the past five years, we've rebuilt the brand around what it needed most: a working product used by millions of people and a strong, scalable infrastructure underneath it. The next chapter is about taking that foundation

to a much larger audience and community - and we believe Abel and BabyDoge are well positioned to do exactly that. We're proud of what we've built and excited to see where they take LimeWire next."
JULIAN & PAUL ZEHETMAYR, CO-FOUNDERS, LIMEWIRE

"Julian and Paul did something extraordinary - they built Web3 infrastructure that 8 million people use every month," said Abel Czupor. "But to go further, LimeWire doesn't need a board of directors. It needs an army. And BabyDoge brings that army - three million strong - not as a corporate parent, but as a DAO-style backer of our independence online."


LimeWire Official Logo

Back to the roots, creator-first
"The internet is broken today," Czupor said. "Tech giants have monopolized data. They scrape artists', musicians', writers' and researchers' work without permission to train their AI models, and streaming platforms keep 90% of what musicians earn."

The new LimeWire, powered by BabyDoge's infrastructure and the $LMWR token, becomes what its new leadership calls a digital refuge for creators - a hub built around creator sovereignty and ownership of your data, where users control how their work and their data move across the network.

"We're building a platform where AI serves the creator, not the corporation. If an independent artist decides tomorrow to release an AI-generated album straight to fans, bypassing labels entirely, LimeWire will be a place they can do it directly, on their own terms."
ABEL CZUPOR, LIMEWIRE

$LMWR: the platform's native token
As part of the acquisition, $LMWR becomes the native utility token of the LimeWire platform, used for services such as decentralized file storage and access to the platform's AI tools.

The system got upgraded. The rebellion didn't.

Financial terms of the deal were not disclosed. An updated LimeWire Network product roadmap is expected in the coming weeks.

About LimeWire
LimeWire is a modern platform for file sharing, decentralized storage, and AI-powered content workflows, built around one of the internet's most recognizable brands. Rebuilt and relaunched in 2022, LimeWire today serves millions of users each month and powers LimeWire Network, its decentralized object storage network. LMWR is the native token used across LimeWire products. The current LimeWire has no affiliation with the original Lime Wire LLC or Lime Group LLC.

About BabyDoge
BabyDoge started as a meme. It became a movement. Since 2021, more than 5 million people have gathered around two commitments: help as many dogs as possible, and make crypto accessible to everyone. Not pledges. Action. Over $1.5 million has gone directly to shelters and rescues around the world — including a Guinness World Record for the largest pet food donation in 24 hours, the first ever held by a crypto community.
There are more than 200 million stray dogs in the world. They didn’t choose that life, and they can’t change it alone. Someone has to step in. BabyDoge chose to be that someone.
If a meme can bring millions of people together, that attention is worth pointing at something that matters.

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