

Case study — Finoa x Earlybird

Managing crypto operations with a secure asset platform

Earlybird Venture Capital leverages Finoa to oversee crypto operations and uphold regulated, high-security standards.

Founded in 1997, Earlybird is a European venture capital investor. It supports the growth of European technology companies with financial and strategic resources, in addition to providing access to the international capital network. With 25 years of experience and €2 billion in assets under management across all fund streams, Earlybird is one of the most active and established VCs in Europe.

Beyond engaging in financial markets, Earlybird also puts a high emphasis on contributing positively to the environment and encourages portfolio companies to take climate action. The firm is committed to offsetting its residual carbon footprint and runs a pro-bono incubator and impact fund called “Vision Labs.”

When managing crypto operations, Earlybird trusts Finoa as its preferred custodial partner. Finoa’s secure and regulated crypto asset management platform and its dedicated white-glove service were critical factors in establishing this partnership.

Web3 investments and the need for a trusted custodian

In its early commitment to supporting builders in the Web3 space, in 2017, Earlybird invested in Shapeshift, a free open-source DeFi platform, and Ocean Protocol. Following the funding, the team needed a solution to manage the crypto investments. After spending a considerable amount of time screening the market for a suitable solution, Earlybird opted for German-based Finoa, convinced by its security infrastructure, tech stack, and ability to quickly provide regulated support for immediate token needs.

“The Berlin crypto startup ecosystem is vivid, and Finoa emerged on our radar in 2018. Being Berlin-based, we had the opportunity to connect with the founding team early on and were convinced of the company vision and product-market fit. There was a lack of institutional-grade crypto custody solutions and Finoa filled a growing gap in the market.”

Tim Rehder, Partner at Earlybird.

Because of its German roots, Finoa provides Earlybird with services under the regulatory framework that the firm is familiar with. The Finoa platform helped the team at Earlybird get more comfortable with managing crypto operations by offering flexibility and speed, in addition to adhering to the highest security standards.

ABOUT FINOA

Finoa provides institutional access to the ever-growing crypto-asset ecosystem, with industry-leading asset coverage and day-one support for emerging blockchain protocols and in-demand projects. The company offers institutional investors a full range of financial services including custody and staking. As a regulated custodian, Finoa serves high-profile clients from around the world, including renowned venture capital firms, crypto hedge funds, corporates, and high-net-worth individuals.

To learn more about Finoa's custom solutions, contact our team.

[Get in touch](#)

Streamlined processes through custom integrations



ONBOARDING PROCESS

As Earlybird expanded into unknown territory, Finoa provided them with the necessary tools to manage their crypto portfolio investments. Designed to ensure Earlybird's long-term success, the onboarding process was kept simple and efficient.



TAILORED SERVICE

Finoa provides premium support service even after the initial phase. Whether it be solving impromptu problems or answering tech queries, Finoa's dedicated personnel help them with bespoke solutions.



FLEXIBILITY AND OPPORTUNITY

Managing crypto funds entails being able to grow with the industry. Finoa combines speed and flexibility, allowing Earlybird to effectively manage risk and keep pace with changes in the market.

Why Finoa?



REPORTING

As a venture capital firm with investments across Europe, Earlybird requires a regular overview of the portfolio structure and live information to make essential business decisions. Thanks to Finoa's RESTful API and efficient reporting solutions, the Earlybird team can create customized reporting structures and present asset data with a high level of detail.



GOVERNANCE AND SECURITY POLICIES

Sophisticated governance procedures such as customizable user roles, approval workflows, and the biometric two-factor authentication provided by Finoa ensure that whatever happens in the account always follows the intent of the organization.



EXPOSURE TO WEB3

Through this partnership, Earlybird can engage in the DeFi and Web3 ecosystem in a way that's safe and simple. With Finoa's broad asset coverage, curated access to staking, and easy-to-use interface, Earlybird can thrive in the crypto space.