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PERSPECTIVES by Steve Payne

33 Crypto Private Financings Raised: \$204.1M
Rolling 3-Month-Average: \$284.8M
Rolling 52-Week Average: \$408.1M

Continuing the recent run of sizable infrastructure financings (see our December **post** discussing Gonka), the WorldLand Foundation last week announced a \$100M committed investment from Bolts Capital, one of the largest protocol-level commitments yet in decentralized AI.

WorldLand is positioning itself squarely at the intersection of decentralized compute, AI verification, and regulatory readiness. Its proprietary Proof-of-Compute (PoC) system is designed to cryptographically verify that GPU-based training, inference, and storage workloads are executed correctly, a critical requirement as decentralized AI networks move from experimentation toward enterprise and government-adjacent use cases.

Not much information is available on either WorldLand or Bolts Capital. WorldLand appears to be South Korea-based and headed by a very experienced university AI researcher. The foundation has previously received roughly \$7M in government grants. The network also appears to be live; its website has full documentation and claims roughly 10,000 nodes across 45 countries.

The deal fits neatly into a broader wave of funding for decentralized AI compute. As discussed previously, Bitfury's commitment to Gonka and the Series A for Manifold Lab underscore growing conviction that open, verifiable compute networks can compete with hyperscalers. Alongside more established players like Akash Network, the past six months have also seen early-stage rounds for ARO Network, Sparkchain AI, AINX, Acurast, and DeepNode, each tackling different slices of decentralized AI infrastructure. We also note the December acquisition of decentralized storage and compute leader Storj by Inveniam Capital Partners, a data infrastructure company for private markets. All are aimed at solving the same problem: dependence on centralized hyperscaler compute.

Taken together, the WorldLand investment and related transactions suggest decentralized AI is starting to move beyond modest seed rounds into a phase where nine-figure commitments, particularly those tied to real GPU expansion and verifiable execution, are becoming plausible. This may prove decisive in turning decentralized AI from a compelling narrative into durable, production-grade infrastructure.

Architect Partners will be at the DAS Summit in NYC from March 24 to 26. Contact DAS.NYC@architectpartners.com to schedule a meeting with us at the conference.

PAST WEEK NOTABLE TRANSACTIONS						
Company	Size (\$M)	Date	Post-Money Valuation (\$M)	Stage	Lead Investors	Subsector
WorldLand	\$100.0	2/12	Undisclosed	Early Stage VC	Bolts Capital	Mining & Staking
Inference Research	20.0	2/11	Undisclosed	Seed Round	Avenir Group	Investing & Trading Infrastructure
FOMO	19.3	2/10	\$97.5	Series A	Benchmark Capital Holdings	Investing & Trading Infrastructure
Levl	7.0	2/10	Undisclosed	Seed Round	Galaxy Ventures	Payments Infrastructure
Yoake Entertainment	4.4	2/13	Undisclosed	Seed Round	Next Web capital, Sony Innovation Fund	DApp: Consumer
Superset	4.0	2/11	Undisclosed	Seed Round	Undisclosed	Developer Tools & Infrastructure
Minto	3.2	2/12	Undisclosed	Later Stage VC	TV Tokyo Holdings	DApp: Consumer
Swear.com	3.2	2/11	Undisclosed	Seed Round	Undisclosed	DApp: Consumer
Mova Protocol	3.0	2/10	Undisclosed	Seed Round	Undisclosed	Enterprise Solutions
YOM	3.0	2/10	Undisclosed	Later Stage VC	Avalanche Foundation	Mining & Staking

