

UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION Washington, D.C. 20549

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INITIAL STATEMENT OF BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF SECURITIES

Filed pursuant to Section 16(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 or Section 30(h) of the Investment Company Act of 1940

| (Print or Type Responses) | | | | | | |
|--|--|---|-----------------------|---|--|--|
| 1. Name and Address of Reporting Person [*] – Direct Digital Management, LLC | 2. Date of Event Requiring Statement (Month/Day/Year) 02/15/2022 | 3. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol Direct Digital Holdings, Inc. [DRCT] | | | | |
| (Last) (First) (Middle) 1233 WEST LOOP SOUTH, SUITE 1170 | 02/13/2022 | Issuer (Check all applicable) Director X_10% Owner | | | 5. If Amendment, Date Original Filed(Month/Day/Year) | |
| (Street) HOUSTON, TX 77027 | | | | | 6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check Applicable Line) _X_Form filed by One Reporting Person Form filed by More than One Reporting Person | |
| (City) (State) (Zip) | Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Beneficially Owned | | | | | |
| 1.Title of Security (Instr. 4) | curities ned | | 4. Natur (Instr. 5 | e of Indirect Beneficial Ownership) | | |

Reminder: Report on a separate line for each class of securities beneficially owned directly or indirectly.

SEC 1473 (7-02)

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Table II - Derivative Securities Beneficially Owned (e.g., puts, calls, warrants, options, convertible securities)

| | | | | -, - · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · | | | | | |
|--|--|---------------------|--------------------|--|----------------------------------|---|-----------------------|---|--|
| | Instr. 4) | and Expiration Date | | (Instr. 4) | | or Exercise Price of | Form of Derivative | 6. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 5) | |
| | | Date Exercisable | Expiration Date | Title | Amount or Number of Shares | Derivative Security: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 5) | | | |
| | Class A Common Units of Direct Digital Holdings LLC | <u>(1)</u> | <u>(1)</u> | Class A common stock | 5,689,000 | \$ <u>(1)</u> | D | | |

Reporting Owners

| | Relationships | | | | | |
|---|---------------|--------------|---------|-------|--|--|
| Reporting Owner Name / Address | | 10% Owner | Officer | Other | | |
| Direct Digital Management, LLC 1233 WEST LOOP SOUTH, SUITE 1170 HOUSTON, TX 77027 | | Х | | | | |

Signatures

| /s/ Mark Walker as Managing Partner of Direct Digital Management, LLC | 02/17/2022 |
|---|------------|
| -*Signature of Reporting Person | Date |
| /s/ Keith Smith as Managing Partner of Direct Digital Management, LLC | 02/17/2022 |
| Signature of Reporting Person | Date |

Explanation of Responses:

- * If the form is filed by more than one reporting person, see Instruction 5(b)(v).
- ** Intentional misstatements or omissions of facts constitute Federal Criminal Violations. See 18 U.S.C. 1001 and 15 U.S.C. 78ff(a).
- Pursuant to the Second Amended and Restated Limited Liability Company Agreement of Direct Digital Holdings LLC, dated as of February 15, 2022, Class A Common Units (as defined therein) held by the Reporting Person are exchangeable for shares of Class A common stock on a one-for-one basis, subject to certain exceptions,
- (1) conditions and adjustments. The Class A Common Units have no expiration date. At the time of any such exchange, an equal number of shares of Class B common stock of the Issuer held by the Reporting Person, which have no economic value and entitle holders thereof to one vote per share on all matters on which stockholders of the Issuer are entitled to vote generally, are cancelled.

Note: File three copies of this Form, one of which must be manually signed. If space is insufficient, See Instruction 6 for procedure.

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