

Verestro's Products Overview

In this chapter we will present the CEO's view on our products and solutions.

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Why to use Verestro?

In this article I would like to explain why it is beneficial to leverage the [Verestro Fintech-as-a-Service Platform](#).

Keeping pace in the fintech landscape

Let's start with a description of the problem. Today's financial and **payment technology** world is a complicated monster. There are new technologies appearing and disappearing every year or even every month. You must invest into new APIs, new interfaces, new frameworks, new security and regulatory requirements. And on the other hand, you have growing costs of **IT development**. Maybe, during the last years the growth of salaries slowed down a bit but in general one of the biggest costs in your P&L is IT expenditures.

Innovation as a challenge

Let's imagine that you would like to be on top of many **innovations in financial technologies**. You would like to invest into [QR payments](#), eCom, contactless etc. And you would like to do it of course in high quality. It means that for each of these functionalities you would need a few people to develop and later maintain and host these solutions. A few people means usually 50-100k USD monthly **costs** for 6-12 months or actually forever. Really forever, because technologies are changing, new frameworks are required, updates are needed.

We think that actually it does not make sense that everybody does it on their own. It would take a lot of time and a lot of money. It is much better and easier if we invest into these **technologies** and our customers will cover just part of the costs involved in **development and maintenance** of these platforms. Additionally, we give benefits of compliance with security, legal, regulatory requirements to simplify customers' lives. How does it work?

Verestro's solution: All-in-One Fintech-as-a-Service Platform

The philosophy is pretty simple. We work on our own, or with **Mastercard**, with **banks**, with **payment institutions** on new products. We are implementing them one-by-one on our **platform** and thanks to this you are getting a big set of **financial technologies in one place**. You do not need to manage multiple vendors, you do not need to learn new technologies. You are focused on users, usually you are focused on front-end, core functionalities and your costs are much lower. Our **standard fees** are lower than AWS or Azure costs of hosting only... but at this price we provide not only hosting but also applications, APIs, connections, regulatory compliance, PCI DSS, business solutions, admin panels, frontend if needed etc.

So, if you want to make use of investments done by multiple parties in the world, get in touch with us!

Verestro architecture and choice of products

Below simplified example of Verestro platform architecture. Before every project please decide which functionalities are you going to use.

[image-1717855587739.png](#)

Please tick bullet points which are needed in your project and deliver it to our sales team:

☐ **INTERFACE**

- ☐ White-label app
- ☐ White-label web
- ☐ SDKs - android and iOS, to minimise PCI issues
- ☐ APIs

☐ **CORE**

- ☐ eKYC - are you going to register consumers? do you have own KYC solution or want to use ours?
- ☐ eKYB - are you going to register business customers? do you have own KYB solution or want to use ours?
- ☐ Data Core (any user data will be delivered to Verestro) - almost always needed
- ☐ Balance
- ☐ Card - do you want to use our issuing processing capabilities or you have another issuing processor
- ☐ Transaction History

☐ **RECEIVE MONEY**

- ☐ IBAN for receiving
- ☐ Receive to card
- ☐ eCommerce gateway - do you want to use our acquirer or you have another acquirer? which ways of payments?
- ☐ Other partner assets - do you want to reload cards with points, digital assets etc.

☐ **SEND MONEY**

- ☐ Payout to Card - sending money to any VISA or Mastercard card?
- ☐ SEPA transfers
- ☐ Internal transfers between our accounts
- ☐ QR payments
- ☐ Other ways of sending money?

☐ **PAY TO MERCHANT**

- ☐ Apple Pay
- ☐ Google Pay
- ☐ Own wallet
- ☐ eCommerce payments
- ☐ inApp payments
- ☐ Payments from own wallet
- ☐ ATM

☐ **CARD BENEFITS**

- ☐ Point-based loyalty
- ☐ Fee management
- ☐ Donations
- ☐ Cash back
- ☐ Vouchers
- ☐ Carbon Calculator
- ☐ Invoice management
- ☐ User groups

We are constantly adding new value added functionalities. Check if we have not added something new in the meantime :) Contact us.

Verestro's products for various regions

Our **mission** at [Verestro](#) is to provide cutting-edge fintech technologies and make them affordable to everyone. We work with banks, fintech providers, payment schemes, payment gateways, merchants, corporations and small businesses and develop a **BAAS / FAAS** platform. However, as "**payments**" is a regulated business, we are not able to provide all our services globally at the moment. Below we describe key products we distribute in particular regions.

- **The European Union**

- Key customers: banks, fintech, payment providers, merchants, businesses, insurances, lendtech etc.
- Key products: all products described in our [Developer Zone](#), including technology and regulated payments solutions.
- Taking into account market dynamics, our **key focus** is on:
 - [Card Issuing](#)
 - [Online Payments](#)
 - [Tokenization & NFC](#)
 - [Business Control](#)
 - [Card Benefits](#)
 - [Smart City Apps](#)

- **North & South America**

- Key customers: banks, processors, payment schemes, fintech.
- Key products: we are focused on selling technology platforms because we do not have a payment license at the moment; we do work with various partners like Paymentology or Girasol to provide end-to-end payment solutions; we can offer payment accounts and cards in Europe if customer has office in Europe.
- Taking into account market dynamics, our **key focus** is on:
 - [White Label Apps](#)
 - [Tokenization & NFC](#)
 - [Business Control](#)
 - [Money Transfers](#)
 - [Card Benefits](#)
 - [Smart City Apps](#)

- **East Asia incl. India**

- Key customers: banks, processors, payment schemes, fintech.
- Key products: focus on technology products around tokenization and money transfers; we can offer payment accounts and cards in Europe if customer has an office in Europe.
- Taking into account market dynamics, our **key focus** is on:
 - [Tokenization & NFC](#)
 - [Business Control](#)
 - [Money Transfers](#)
 - [Card Benefits](#)

- **Middle East & Africa**

- Key customers: banks, processors, payment schemes, fintech.
- Key products: **focus** on technology around tokenization and white label; we can offer payment accounts and cards in Europe if customer has office in Europe:
 - [Tokenization & NFC](#)
 - [Business Control](#)
 - [Money Transfers](#)
 - [White Label Apps](#)

What are the Advantages of the Verestro Fintech-as-a-Service Platform?

Each time we approach our customers, we are asked what **advantages** over the competitors our solution brings. In this article I would like to describe a couple of points which differentiate us among this pot of financial technologies vendors.

Advantages of the Verestro Fintech-as-a-Service Platform

1. Speed

200% faster than building everything in-house. Instead of building every fintech product yourself, You can use our platform and You will have all of those services much faster and at lower investment costs. Let's take [card issuing](#) for example. To start issuing cards You need to cover very costly and time consuming areas. You have to:

- ☐ build Your architecture and its individual components like data core center to manage cards, '
- ☐ have all kind of backends to tokenize the cards,
- ☐ create admin panels,
- ☐ integrate with Mastercard or Visa platforms,
- ☐ create the SDKs to integrate them with Your mobile interface,
- ☐ finally find or build Your own processing facility,
- ☐ and obtain a license of an official payment institution.

It may take from 1,5 to even 3 years and cost You a fortune counted in millions of euros! Choosing a Fintech-as-a-Service model is way more efficient as You simply do it all **in 3 months**.

2. Cost-Effectiveness

Our services **cost up to 50% less than those of the competition!** Often customers complain of high costs of fintech services. The cost of implementing our fintech services is one of the lowest in the industry, due to the maintained cost discipline, the location of the software house in the relatively cheapest country in the EU in terms of personnel costs, and the accumulated experience

of more than 65 completed implementation projects.

Thanks to the **subscription-based Fintech-as-a-Service sales model**, the cost of our services is also significantly cheaper than the cost of developing such services in-house. As in the above-mentioned example of card issuing, the cost of card issuing program may exceed 1-2 m euros where in fintech-as-a-service case You will be only charged for a setup fee not higher than 20 k euro and then You will need to pay a monthly fee for the maintenance dependent on the type of cards You issue 4-8 k euro per month. Isn't it a good deal?

3. Long-Term Financial Stability

We are profitable, no loans, not dependent on investor money. We have **Mastercard** as a shareholder. You get a partner with long term financial stability which is extremely rare in our industry. Before signing any agreement with any vendor of financial technologies please make sure You double checked their financial condition usually available in the investors tabs on their official websites. You don't want to wake up one day with Your customers cut off from their payment cards.

4. Flexibility

Direct contact and flexibility! At Verestro, You get in touch with **decision makers** and we are ready to listen to Your needs. As long as You are not violating financial, AML rules - we are happy to be flexible and update our rules to Your needs.

Even though we would prefer to sell our off-the-shelf [products](#) like card issuing, tokenization, money transfers or a business expense management system, we all know, sometimes, some customisations are simply unavoidable. We have wide experience in tailoring the products to our Partners' needs.

5. New Revenue Streams

Generate new revenue with our fintech products! Our clients value rapid implementation of fintech services because it allows them to start **generating revenue or reduce costs faster** from such services as payment card issuance and cross-border transfers, online payments.

Based on our **experience** and **optimized processes** and **API/SDK**, it takes 4 times less effort to launch new products and start generating revenues on them. One of the good examples of the way You can quickly start earning on Your payment cards is a Fees module. Simply set up the fees on each issued card and start to earn from the first day of the project.

Contact

If You want to challenge some of the above-mentioned statements, feel free to book a call with one of our sales representatives at **sales@verestro.com**. We look forward to hearing from you!

[Adam Mizolek](#)

Own Payment License or Dependence on a BAAS provider - how does Verestro solve it?

If you are a fintech provider, there is one single risk of choosing a BAAS partner - long-term dependence on a regulatory license of the partner. We will focus on this topic in this article and explain how [Verestro](#)'s proposal differs from all other BAAS providers.

At the beginning of your fintech journey, there is usually not enough time to cover all the topics and build every single payment license yourself. In fact, it does not even make sense. Therefore, fintech start-ups and scale-ups usually choose BAAS partners and develop their business with them.

Such a decision is actually an important risk for every fintech because you start being dependent on BAAS partners. Your customer gets registered to accounts and payment services of your partner and in the long run you are building a serious risk for yourself. Maybe you do not care about this problem at this stage but think of it. It is a super important risk. What can happen:

1. Your BAAS partner may increase prices and you will have to pay
2. Your BAAS partner has problems with a regulatory institution and you must follow new rules that regulator is pushing to the payment provider
3. Your BAAS partner has AML issues and your BIN, your cards are blocked because of other customers

There are many risks. At Verestro, we solve this problem in various ways:

- **We are not only BAAS but also technology provider** - a lot of our projects are performed in cooperation with banks, payment institutions where we act as a technology provider only. We can also do it for you which means that once you get your own payment license, we can use the same technical infrastructure to issue your cards and open your accounts.
- **We are not dependent on a single payment institution** - we work on multi-issuing, multi-bank, and multi-acquiring solutions, so that you can have a choice of payment institutions that you work with. It is a unique functionality of our platform. It enables you

to work globally with multiple payment institutions or to switch payment partners once it is necessary for your business.

- **We work with multiple banks** - we have cooperation with many financial institutions and banks all over the world and our core strategy is to bring you accounts and payments in all countries. You can choose IBANs and BINs from various countries. You can choose currencies, local payment solutions etc.

In conclusion, when you choose Verestro, you get **long-term stability** and a **solution** to this important risk. Contact us for more details.

White-label App vs. In-house App Development

In the world of growing IT development costs, our customers are asking more and more questions regarding [white label](#) frontend and mobile app development. In this article we will focus on the most important advantages and disadvantages of using white label frontend products.

Introduction to app development

Let's start with an introduction. As a company willing to launch new fintech products or willing to implement a mobile application for your users or employees, you need to make a business decision on how to implement it:

1. **Your own development (in-house)** - in this case you will hire developers, choose a front-end technical framework and will work with your team to implement a mobile app fully dedicated to your business.
2. **Choosing a white label product** - in this case you have to choose a vendor of a white label application, learn how to customise this application and eventually hire a team that will work on customisations necessary for your business use cases.

This choice is actually a super important decision that many business people underestimate. Let's focus on the key advantages and disadvantages of working in both models.

Scenario 1 - In-house app development

This is a common scenario for many banks, new fintechs, corporations, etc. It seems to be very easy. You will hire one or two developers for a few months and after this period of time you will have a perfect product that will include multiple functionalities. You can then resign from developers and have great business use cases for your customers. To hire developers you will usually try to hire an external IT outsourcing company that will promise to you that it is easy, fast and inexpensive.

Nothing in the above sentences is true! :) Really nothing. Many business people, especially company managers, think that front-end development is easy. That everything works great on any type of phone and that integrating backend APIs is super easy and fast.

Disadvantages

In reality, it takes time. A lot of time. To have a very good front-end product built from scratch, without bugs, you usually have to plan 12-24 months of constant development, tests, changes etc.

And after this period you cannot resign from the development team. You need to have people that will work on changes, updates, will implement technical updates required by Apple, Google, security rules etc. Let's do a quick calculation. The smallest IT team today consists of 4-5 people: backend developer, frontend developer (one or two depending on chosen technology), tester, product owner / scrum master / project manager / UX person. If you want to have fast development, this team should be bigger (8-10 people). Additionally you need hosting services - AWS or Azzure can quickly become a large part of your cost structure. You need additional software and systems connected with development work, such as Slack, Jenkins, Kubernetes, etc. All of this costs money. In short, you should expect the following costs:

- 5 people * min. 6.000 EUR average cost = 30.000 EUR monthly
- 5.000 EUR hosting monthly
- 1.000 EUR additional costs
- not including office costs, bonuses etc.

TOTAL: 36.000 EUR monthly cost -> FOR THE SMALLEST POSSIBLE TEAM!

And let's imagine that you have to spend 10 months for MVP development -> 360.0000 EUR one-time fee.

It is the cost you have to cover just to implement your MVP. Without any marketing, without any customer reactions, no sales during the period. In reality I think that you should assume that this cost of doing the implementation in such a way is 2-3 times higher than this minimum cost - almost 1 mln EUR.

Additionally, you should take into account that development done by a very small team requires technical compromises. Most likely you will not use Native iOS and Android technologies that are the best from UX perspective. IT companies will recommend to you various hybrid technologies which is always a compromise in the UX area. You will also not gather experience from other projects done in similar areas. Your mistakes will usually be first mistakes, your developer mistakes will require updates, etc.

What's even more important, you need to think about long-term development, hosting and maintenance costs. Maybe you can limit the team by 50% but costs of hosting will grow for sure with new users coming to your system. I would assume that you will have a monthly cost of 10-20.000 EUR to cover to keep the application running.

Advantages

Apologies for describing so many disadvantages but I think it is true. However, there are big advantages. If you can afford those costs and time spending, you will have full freedom. You can do with your app whatever you want to do. You can implement new features, change everything, implement new technology quickly. The dependency is only on your budget. I fully admit that this is a super important advantage that can be strategic for many start-ups and companies. I am just not sure that you must get this advantage at the very beginning of your project. Sometimes cost and time is much more important than full freedom of development. Go-to-market time may be decisive for getting new investors, growing revenues will be critical to proving that there is a

problem you are solving.

Scenario 2 - **White label** application

Using a white label application is another strategy you can choose. In such a situation the majority of components of your application are already developed. You use an already existing product that can be customised to your requirements and you hire your developers just in case you want to make various non-standard changes in the app.

The following rules for choosing a white label application vendor are very important:

- Carefully choose **technology** - please remember that native iOS and Android solutions are just better from the UX and performance behaviour. This is what Apple and Google use for their apps.
- Check the **possibility of customisations** - make sure you understand flexibility of the product, if you can add new features, if your developers can work on the code, if you can change just colours and logo or the entire look and feel in the long run.
- Verify **experience** - check examples of other customers using this product. See how they look like, test them.
- **Prices** - obviously important. Remember to check both one-time and on-going maintenance prices. The 2nd ones are even more important.
- **Intellectual property** - very important. Is it possible that you get full IP rights to the copy of your application. Would you be able to change the development later to your own development.
- **Security and financial stability** - make sure you work with a partner that is financially stable and will not close your project in the middle of the development.

These are the most important issues that you need to check. Once you check them and they are acceptable for your business, you may get a result that your product can be 5 times faster on the market, costs can be 4 times lower, revenues will appear much faster etc. Today, the cost of white label applications can be as low as 40-60.000 EUR for development. The maintenance - 4-5.000 EUR. It can be critical for the business, especially during the first phases of growth.

Summary

I recommend that you do not believe that the world of front-end development is simple and inexpensive :) Do not make this mistake. Consider carefully if you have enough time and money. In fact, one of the most important aspects of project development is the comparison of revenues and costs. Costs are known for sure. Revenue is usually unknown. Make sure you do not overinvest. It is very easy to make a decision that you want to spend half of your 2 mln EUR on technical solution but actually it will be much, much better if you spend 200.000 EUR on a technical solution and the remaining 800.000 EUR will be used for promotions, marketing, user acquisition. This usually matters the most.

Anyhow, good luck. Thanks for reading.

Business Control for new or existing portfolios

One of our important products is Business Control. You can find more information about this solution under the following link - [Business Control](#)

Our customers are asking us from time to time if it is possible to use Business Control for the existing portfolio of customers and cards or if it is aimed for new customers. Let me clarify this topic in this article.

[Business Control](#) is a **platform** or set of functionalities targeted at business customers that should give them more **control over spendings, company expenses, cost and invoice management and more**. Verestro offers it to banks and fintechs as a technology platform or we also can deliver it directly to corporations in connection with our partnering payment institutions in various parts of the world.

It offers several important **benefits** for business customers:

- super easy issuing of virtual cards for various company expenses - imagine that your manager can issue a virtual card to you when you go to a conference in another country. Card will be valid for 2 weeks, will have various limits etc.
- invoice management - instead of collecting pictures or doing photos you just scan an invoice and it lands directly in finance or accounting department for approval and further processing
- employee benefits - you can use cards with multiply visuals to give Christmas gifts or Valentine Cards or Thank You Gifts to your employees
- all the money is held in one or a few payment accounts which means that you do not need to pre-paid every card. You keep money and deliver "limits" to your users. It is a very important benefit vs pre-paid cards.

Let's imagine that you already have a portfolio of business customers because you are a bank or fintech partner and you would like to offer such a platform to your customers. **Quick answer is - of course it is possible to offer Business Control to your existing customers.**

After some integration and implementation projects you will give your existing customers an opportunity to issue new virtual cards for their employees, manage invoices and expenses etc. However, take into account that if you would like to **enable it for already issued cards**, actually you are using just part of the functionalities. The card already exists, it is in hands of the user, so in fact it means that you will not issue a new card for this person but you can:

- manage limits of cards
- manage invoices
- have new interface for company / employee
- and additional possibility to issue new virtual cards for this company or business customer

Feel free to contact us and discuss details of such implementation.

Regards,

Krzysztof

Tokenization and Contactless Payments - Verestro's competitive advantages

The most important reason why you should use the Verestro Tokenization and Contactless Payment Solutions

There are many reasons why to use [Tokenization](#) and **Contactless Payment solutions** provided by Verestro but one of them is definitely the most important. We can **give you access to ALL ways of NFC** and contactless payments through a single platform and one vendor. There are multiple partners you will have to integrate with and certify. Some processors will enable the majority of them but very few will give you access to all. Some IT companies will tell you that they can do everything and connect to everyone but it is also not true. It takes time and money to get new integrations and certifications.

Examples of questions that you can ask your vendors

- Imagine that 10% of your users are using Huawei phones. Are you ready to provide contactless payments to their phones now?
- What if many of your users have cheap Android phones? Will your solution work on this? How many MB are used by your system (in our case below 4MB)?
- What if you are issuing cards in multiple markets? Is your current solution ready globally?
- What if you are planning to tokenize bank accounts (not cards but bank accounts) - is your platform ready for this?

Verestro's solutions

At [Verestro](#) we solve this problem by **certifying and standardising integration** with all possible ways of payments. We are delivering our tokenization and NFC cloud payment platform globally to multiple bank and payment institutions. Current list of certified solutions is:

- phones: Apple, Huawei, Pixel, Samsung, LG, Motorola, Xiaomi etc.
- operating systems: iOS, Android

- X-pays: Apple Pay, Google Pay, Samsung Pay, Fitbit Pay, Garmin Pay, your own wallet, your own X-Pay
- payment schemes: VISA, Mastercard, Pay-by-Account, Local scheme
- countries: global, possibility of local data hosting or transaction processing

Business benefits

Additional business benefits that make us unique are:

- possibility of registering individual card visuals
- delivering the full scope of reporting for Apple and Google inside the Verestro Token Management Platform
- possibility to organize card registration to Apple or Google with own, proprietary CVC / CVV verification method (no need for integration)
- cheap and quick - below 20k eur one-time, below 4k eur per month, 2-4 months only

Please contact us for more information.

Trends on the Fintech Market

There are various important trends that are impacting the financial technology market at the moment. We try to focus on several of them to stay competitive and propose services which improve user satisfaction, conversion and bring more revenues to our partners. In this article I would like to focus on a few of these ongoing changes:

- **Embedded Finance** - more and more applications, marketplaces, partners would like to include financial solutions inside their applications. It seems that flexible and not expensive payment solutions are necessary to build new value proposition on many markets. From lending, through insurance, loyalty platforms, merchants, discount programs, employee benefits - all of those provides can find useful value in fintech solutions.
- **Focus on revenue generation** - every financial product must bring value which can be counted in dollars. It used to be expensive to setup card issuing solution but it is no longer a case. You can implement and test various financial technologies during 2-3 months. You can have cards with own visuals, send money transfers globally easily. Once it became easy, all partners focus on solutions that can bring direct revenues per user, per transaction. High cost is no longer a problem today.
- **Multi-functionality, multi-acquiring, multi-issuing, multi-processing** - there used to be specialised players focused on particular segment. You had to choose different vendors for card issuing, accounts, money transfer, eCom payments etc. But today it is more and more important to find partners that can offer various solutions, provided by multiple banks, multiple processors under a single roof. Connections between various products bring the most value as thanks to it you can build more sophisticated use cases
- **Fraud and AML management** - flexible but superior approach to AML, KYC, fraud management is becoming a king. The strategy focused on declining all high risk transaction does not work any longer. Financial players and regulators learned that it is necessary to build rules that enable processing of various types of transaction in secure way, in line with rules.
- **Cryptocurrencies** - it seems that after years of ups and downs cryptocurrencies became part of our world. It is difficult to imagine that there will be hard block for this technology. It is important to start thinking about it as part of financial technologies that bring global value in different use cases.

At [Verestro](#), we focus on those trends to ensure that we can deliver exceptional value for our customers.

Mobile App Development Languages Used by Verestro

This article summarizes programming languages & technologies we're utilizing to build our mobile solutions.

Why should I care?

If you want to use Verestro's SDKs in your mobile apps or you are interested in our Whitelabel Mobile Application, with intention of future maintenance by your own team, you may want to check if our products fit your technology stack well.

Native solution

Most of our solutions for mobile apps leverages technologies native for each mobile platform:

- For Android - Kotlin (seamlessly works also with java-based projects)
- For iOS - Swift

This enables best performance, security and integration of platform-specific features. You may also create your own native SDKs for your products that will work with our ecosystem. More details available [here](#).

Compatibility with web-based solutions

It is possible to embed widgets or entire web-based screens inside our Whitelabel Mobile Application. We'll pass you data about the currently signed in user, so you can display relevant information. More information about it is available [here](#).

Flutter, React Native and other cross-platform tools

While we don't provide SDKs for mobile apps written in Java Script & Dart, our native SDKs work great in such an environment. Both most popular cross-platform frameworks include relevant solutions for this:

- For Flutter you use [Platform Channels](#)
- For React Native you have [Native Modules](#)