# UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20549

# FORM S-8 REGISTRATION STATEMENT

Under THE SECURITIES ACT OF 1933

# **CIPHER MINING INC.**

(Exact Name of Registrant as Specified in its Charter)

**Delaware** (State or other jurisdiction of incorporation or organization) 85-1614529 (I.R.S. Employer Identification No.)

222 Purchase Street, Suite #290 Rye, New York 10580 (Address of principal executive offices) (Zip code)

CIPHER MINING INC. 2021 INCENTIVE AWARD PLAN (Full title of the plan)

> William Iwaschuk Chief Legal Officer Cipher Mining Inc. 222 Purchase Street, Suite #290 Rye, New York 10580 United States of America (Name and address of agent for service)

(914) 370-8006 (Telephone number, including area code, of agent for service)

Copies to:

J, David Stewart Ryan Maierson Latham & Watkins LLP 99 Bishopsgate London EC2M 3XF United Kingdom +44-20-7710-3098

Indicate by check mark whether the Registrant is a large accelerated filer, an accelerated filer, a non-accelerated filer, a smaller reporting company, or an emerging growth company. See the definitions of "large accelerated filer," "accelerated filer," "smaller reporting company" and "emerging growth company" in Rule 12b-2 of the Exchange Act.

Large accelerated filer  $\Box$ 

Non-accelerated filer

Accelerated filer  $\Box$ 

Smaller reporting company

Emerging growth company  $\square$ 

If an emerging growth company, indicate by check mark if the registrant has elected not to use the extended transition period for complying with any new or revised financial accounting standards provided pursuant to Section 7(a)(2)(B) of the Securities Act.

## **CALCULATION OF REGISTRATION FEE**

		Proposed Maximum	Proposed	Amount of
	Amount to be	Offering Price	Maximum Aggregate	Registration
Title of Securities to be Registered	Registered(1)	Per Share	Offering Price	Fee

Common Stock, \$0.001 par value per share—2021 Incentive				
Award Plan	42,104,588(2)	\$8.59(3)	\$361,678,411(3)	\$33,528

- (1) Pursuant to Rule 416(a) promulgated under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended (the "Securities Act"), this registration statement on Form S-8 (this "Registration Statement") shall also cover any additional shares of common stock, par value \$0.001 per share ("Common Stock"), of Cipher Mining Inc. (the "Company") that become issuable under the Company's 2021 Incentive Award Plan (the "Incentive Plan") by reason of any stock dividend, stock split, recapitalization or other similar transaction effected without receipt of consideration that increases the number of outstanding shares of Common Stock.
- (2) Represents 19,869,312 shares of Common Stock available for future issuance under the Incentive Plan and 22,235,276 additional shares of Common Stock that may become available for future issuance as a result of the automatic annual evergreen increase under the Incentive Plan. The number of shares of Common Stock reserved for issuance under the Incentive Plan will automatically increase on January 1 of each calendar year from January 1, 2022 through January 1, 2031, by that number of shares of Common Stock equal to the lesser of (i) 3% of the aggregate number of shares of Common Stock outstanding on the final day of the immediately preceding calendar year and (ii) such smaller number of shares of Common Stock as determined by the board of directors of the Company.
- (3) Estimated solely for purposes of calculating the registration fee pursuant to Rules 457(c) and 457(h) of the Securities Act, the proposed maximum offering price per share and proposed maximum aggregate offering price are based upon the average of the high and low prices of the Company's shares of Common Stock as reported on the Nasdaq Global Select Market on November 15, 2021, which date is within five business days prior to the filing of this Registration Statement.

## PART I

# **INFORMATION REQUIRED IN THE SECTION 10(A) PROSPECTUS**

# Item 1. Plan Information.

Not required to be filed with this Registration Statement.

# Item 2. Registrant Information and Employee Plan Annual Information.

Not required to be filed with this Registration Statement.

#### PART II

## INFORMATION REQUIRED IN THE REGISTRATION STATEMENT

References in this Registration Statement to "we," "us," "our," and the "Company," or similar references, refer to Cipher Mining Inc., unless otherwise stated or the context otherwise requires.

#### Item 3. Incorporation of Documents by Reference.

The following documents, which have been filed by Cipher Mining Inc. or its predecessor, Good Works Acquisition Corp. (as applicable, the "Company"), with the United States Securities and Exchange Commission (the "Commission") pursuant to the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended (the "Exchange Act"), are incorporated by reference in, and shall be deemed to be a part of, this Registration Statement:

(a) the Company's Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the quarter ended September 30, 2021, filed with the Commission on <u>November 12</u>, <u>2021</u> (File No. 001-39625);

(b) the Company's Current Reports on Form 8-K filed with the Commission on <u>March 5, 2021</u>, <u>March 18, 2021</u>, <u>March 30, 2021</u>, <u>May 7, 2021</u>, <u>May 14, 2021</u>, <u>May 19, 2021</u>, <u>June 14, 2021</u>, <u>July 12, 2021</u>, <u>August 3, 2021</u>, <u>August 25, 2021</u>, <u>August 31, 2021</u>, <u>September 8, 2021</u>, <u>September 9, 2021</u>, <u>September 10, 2021</u>, <u>October 13, 2021</u> and <u>November 12, 2021</u> (each File No. 001-39625); and

(c) the description of the Company's shares of Common Stock contained in the Company's Registration Statement on <u>Form 8-A</u>, filed with the Commission on October 16, 2020, including any amendments or reports filed for the purpose of updating such description.

All reports and other documents filed by the Company with the Commission pursuant to Sections 13(a), 13(c), 14 and 15(d) of the Exchange Act after the date hereof and prior to the filing of a post-effective amendment which indicates that all securities offered pursuant to this Registration Statement have been sold or which deregisters all securities then remaining unsold, shall be deemed to be incorporated by reference herein and to be a part hereof from the date of filing of such documents or reports.

For purposes of this Registration Statement, any document or any statement contained in a document incorporated or deemed to be incorporated herein by reference shall be deemed to be modified or superseded to the extent that a subsequently filed document or a statement contained therein, or in any other subsequently filed document which also is or is deemed to be incorporated by reference, modifies or supersedes such document or such statement in such document. Any statement so modified or superseded shall not be deemed, except as so modified or superseded, to constitute a part of this Registration Statement.

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Under no circumstances shall any information furnished under Item 2.02 or 7.01 of Form 8-K be deemed incorporated herein by reference unless such Form 8-K expressly provides to the contrary.

# Item 4. Description of Securities.

Not applicable.

#### Item 5. Interests of Named Experts and Counsel.

Not applicable.

# Item 6. Indemnification of Directors and Officers.

Subsection (a) of Section 145 of the General Corporation Law of the State of Delaware (the "DGCL") empowers a corporation to indemnify any person who was or is a party or who is threatened to be made a party to any threatened, pending or completed action, suit or proceeding, whether civil, criminal, administrative or investigative (other than an action by or in the right of the corporation) by reason of the fact that the person is or was a director, officer, employee or agent of the corporation, or is or was serving at the request of the corporation as a director, officer, employee or agent of another corporation, partnership, joint venture, trust or other enterprise, against expenses (including attorneys' fees), judgments, fines and amounts paid in settlement actually and reasonably incurred by the person in connection with such action, suit or proceeding if the person acted in good faith and in a manner the person reasonably believed to be in or not opposed to the best interests of the corporation, and, with respect to any criminal action or proceeding, had no reasonable cause to believe the person's conduct was unlawful.

Subsection (b) of Section 145 empowers a corporation to indemnify any person who was or is a party or is threatened to be made a party to any threatened, pending or completed action or suit by or in the right of the corporation to procure a judgment in its favor by reason of the fact that the person acted in any of the capacities set forth above, against expenses (including attorneys' fees) actually and reasonably incurred by the person in connection with the defense or settlement of such action or suit if the person acted in good faith and in a manner the person reasonably believed to be in or not opposed to the best interests of the corporation, except that no indemnification shall be made in respect of any claim, issue or matter as to which such person shall have been adjudged to be liable to the corporation unless and only to the extent that the Court of Chancery or the court in which such action or suit was brought shall determine upon application that, despite the adjudication of liability but in view of all the circumstances of the case, such person is fairly and reasonably entitled to indemnity for such expenses which the Court of Chancery or such other court shall deem proper.

Section 145 further provides that to the extent a director or officer of a corporation has been successful on the merits or otherwise in the defense of any action, suit or proceeding referred to in subsections (a) and (b) of Section 145, or in defense of any claim, issue or matter therein, such person shall be indemnified against expenses (including attorneys' fees) actually and reasonably incurred by such person in connection therewith; that indemnification provided for by Section 145 shall not be deemed exclusive of any other rights to which the indemnified party may be entitled; and the indemnification provided for by Section 145 shall, unless otherwise provided when authorized or ratified, continue as to a person who has ceased to be a director, officer, employee or agent and shall inure to the benefit of such person's heirs, executors and administrators. Section 145 also empowers the corporation to purchase and maintain insurance on behalf of any person who is or was a director, officer, employee or agent of the corporation, or is or was serving at the request of the corporation as a director, officer, employee or agent of the corporation as a director, officer, employee or agent of against such person and incurred by such person in any such capacity, or arising out of his status as such, whether or not the corporation would have the power to indemnify such person against such liabilities under Section 145.

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Section 102(b)(7) of the DGCL provides that a corporation's certificate of incorporation may contain a provision eliminating or limiting the personal liability of a director to the corporation or its stockholders for monetary damages for breach of fiduciary duty as a director, provided that such provision shall not eliminate or limit the liability of a director (i) for any breach of the director's duty of loyalty to the corporation or its stockholders, (ii) for acts or omissions not in good faith or which involve intentional misconduct or a knowing violation of law, (iii) under Section 174 of the DGCL, or (iv) for any transaction from which the director derived an improper personal benefit.

Additionally, our certificate of incorporation limits the liability of our directors to the fullest extent permitted by the DGCL, and our bylaws provide that we will indemnify them to the fullest extent permitted by such law. We have entered into and expect to continue to enter into agreements to indemnify our directors, executive officers and other employees as determined by our board of directors. Under the terms of such indemnification agreements, we are required to indemnify each of our directors and officers, to the fullest extent permitted by the laws of the state of Delaware, if the basis of the indemnitee's involvement was by reason of the fact that the indemnitee is or was our director or officer or was serving at our request in an official capacity for another entity. We must indemnify our officers and directors against all reasonable fees, expenses, charges and other costs of any type or nature whatsoever, including any and all expenses and obligations paid or incurred in connection with investigating, defending, being a witness in, participating in (including on appeal), or preparing to defend, be a witness or participate in any completed, actual, pending or threatened action, suit, claim or proceeding, whether civil, criminal, administrative or investigative, or establishing or enforcing a right to indemnification under the indemnification agreement. The indemnification agreements also require us, if so requested, to advance all reasonable fees, expenses, charges and other costs that such director or officer incurred, provided that such person will return any such advance if it is ultimately determined that such person is not entitled to indemnification by us. Any claims for indemnification by our directors and officers may reduce our available funds to satisfy successful third-party claims against us and may reduce the amount of money available to us.

## Item 7. Exemption from Registration Claimed.

Not applicable.

# Item 8. Exhibits.

The following documents are filed as exhibits to this Registration Statement:

Exhibit Number	Description of Exhibit		
4.1	Second Amended and Restated Certificate of Incorporation of Cipher Mining Inc. (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 3.1 to the Current Report on Form 8-K (File No. 001-39625) filed on August 31, 2021).		
4.2	Amended and Restated Bylaws of Cipher Mining Inc. (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 3.2 to the Current Report on Form 8-K (File No. 001-339625) filed on August 31, 2021).		
5.1*	Opinion of Latham & Watkins LLP.		
23.1*	Consent of Marcum LLP, independent registered accounting firm for Cipher Mining, Inc.		
23.2*	Consent of Latham & Watkins LLP (included in Exhibit 5.1).		
24.1*	Powers of Attorney (included on the signature page of the Registration Statement).		
99.1	<u>Cipher Mining Inc. 2021 Incentive Award Plan (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.8 to the Current Report on Form 8-K (File No. 001-39625) filed on August 31, 2021).</u>		

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Exhibit Number	Description of Exhibit
99.2	Form of Cipher Mining Inc. Restricted Stock Grant Notice and Restricted Stock Agreement under Cipher Mining Inc. 2021 Incentive Award Plan (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.8(a) to the Current Report on Form 8-K (File No. 001-39625) filed on August 31, 2021).
99.3	Form of Cipher Mining Inc. Restricted Stock Unit Grant Notice and Restricted Stock Unit Agreement under Cipher Mining Inc. 2021 Incentive Award Plan (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.8(b) to the Current Report on Form 8-K (File No. 001-39625) filed on August 31, 2021).
99.4	Form of Cipher Mining Inc. Stock Option Grant Notice and Stock Option Agreement under Cipher Mining Inc. 2021 Incentive Award Plan (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.8(c) to the Current Report on Form 8-K (File No. 001-39625) filed on August 31, 2021)

# Filed herewith.

## Item 9. Undertakings.

(a) The undersigned Company hereby undertakes:

(1) To file, during any period in which offers or sales are being made, a post-effective amendment to this Registration Statement:

(i) To include any prospectus required by Section 10(a)(3) of the Securities Act of 1933;

(ii) To reflect in the prospectus any facts or events arising after the effective date of the Registration Statement (or the most recent post-effective amendment thereof) which, individually or in the aggregate, represent a fundamental change in the information set forth in the Registration Statement. Notwithstanding the foregoing, any increase or decrease in volume of securities offered (if the total dollar value of securities offered would not exceed that which was registered) and any deviation from the low or high end of the estimated maximum offering range may be reflected in the form of prospectus filed with the Commission pursuant to Rule 424(b) if, in the aggregate, the changes in volume and price represent no more than 20 percent change in the maximum aggregate offering price set forth in the "Calculation of Registration Fee" table in the effective registration statement;

(iii) To include any material information with respect to the plan of distribution not previously disclosed in the Registration Statement or any material change to such information in the Registration Statement;

*provided*, *however*, that paragraphs (a)(1)(i) and (a)(1)(ii) of this section do not apply if the registration statement is on Form S-8, and the information required to be included in a post-effective amendment by those paragraphs is contained in periodic reports filed by or furnished to the Commission by the Company pursuant to Section 13 or Section 15(d) of the Exchange Act that are incorporated by reference in the Registration Statement.

(2) That, for the purpose of determining any liability under the Securities Act, each such post-effective amendment shall be deemed to be a new registration statement relating to the securities offered therein, and the offering of such securities at that time shall be deemed to be the initial *bona fide* offering thereof.

(3) To remove from registration by means of a post-effective amendment any of the securities being registered which remain unsold at the termination of the offering.

(b) The undersigned Company hereby undertakes that, for purposes of determining any liability under the Securities Act, each filing of the Company's annual report pursuant to Section 13(a) or Section 15(d) of the Exchange Act (and, where applicable, each filing of an employee benefit plan's annual report pursuant to Section 15(d) of the Exchange Act) that is incorporated by reference in the Registration Statement shall be deemed to be a new registration statement relating to the securities offered herein, and the offering of such securities at that time shall be deemed to be the initial *bona fide* offering thereof.

(c) Insofar as indemnification for liabilities arising under the Securities Act may be permitted to directors, officers and controlling persons of the Company pursuant to the foregoing provisions, or otherwise, the Company has been advised that in the opinion of the Commission such indemnification is against public policy as expressed in the Securities Act and is, therefore, unenforceable. In the event that a claim for indemnification against such liabilities (other than the payment by the Company of expenses incurred or paid by a director, officer or controlling person of the Company in the successful defense of any action, suit or proceeding) is asserted by such director, officer or controlling person in connection with the securities being registered, the Company will, unless in the opinion of its counsel the matter has been settled by controlling precedent, submit to a court of appropriate jurisdiction the question whether such indemnification by it is against public policy as expressed in the Securities Act and will be governed by the final adjudication of such issue.

SIGNATURES

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Act, the registrant certifies that it has reasonable grounds to believe that it meets all of the requirements for filing on Form S-8 and has duly caused this Registration Statement to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned, thereunto duly authorized, in the City of Rye, State of New York, on November 17, 2021.

# CIPHER MINING INC.

By: /s/ Tyler Page

Name: Tyler Page Title: Chief Executive Officer

#### SIGNATURES AND POWER OF ATTORNEY

KNOW ALL PERSONS BY THESE PRESENTS, that each person whose signature appears below constitutes and appoints each of Tyler Page and Edward Farrell, acting alone or together with another attorney-in-fact, as his or her true and lawful attorney-in-fact and agent, with full power of substitution and resubstitution, for such person and in his or her name, place and stead, and in any and all capacities, to sign any and all amendments (including post-effective amendments) to this Registration Statement, and to file the same, with all exhibits thereto, and other documents in connection therewith, with the Commission, granting unto said attorneys-in-fact and agents, and each of them, full power and authority to do and perform each and every act and thing requisite or necessary to be done in and about the premises, as fully and to all intents and purposes as he might or could do in person, hereby ratifying and confirming all that said attorney-in-fact and agent, or his or her substitute or substitutes, may lawfully do or cause to be done by virtue hereof.

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Act, this Registration Statement has been signed by the following persons on November 17, 2021 in the capacities indicated.

SIGNATURE	TITLE	Date
/s/ Tyler Page Tyler Page	Director, Chief Executive Officer (Principal Executive Officer)	November 17, 2021
/s/ Edward Farrell Edward Farrell	Chief Financial Officer (Principal Accounting and Financial Officer)	November 17, 2021
/s/ Caitlin Long Caitlin Long	Director	November 17, 2021
/s/ Holly Morrow Evans Holly Morrow Evans	Director	November 17, 2021
/s/ Robert Dykes Robert Dykes	Director	November 17, 2021
/s/ James Newsome James Newsome	Director	November 17, 2021
/s/ Cary Grossman Cary Grossman	Director	November 17, 2021
/s/ Wesley Williams Wesley Williams	Director	November 17, 2021

# LATHAM&WATKINS

November 17, 2021

Cipher Mining Inc. 222 Purchase Street, Suite #290 Rye, New York 10580

# Re: Cipher Mining Inc. - Registration Statement on Form S-8

#### To the addressees set forth above:

We have acted as special counsel to Cipher Mining Inc., a Delaware corporation (the "*Company*"), in connection with the preparation and filing by the Company on the date hereof with the Securities and Exchange Commission (the "*Commission*") of a Registration Statement (the "*Registration Statement*") on Form S-8 under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended (the "*Act*"), relating to the issuance of up to 42,104,588 shares (the "*Shares*") of common stock, par value \$0.001 per share, of the Company, which may be issued pursuant to the Company's 2021 Incentive Award Plan (the "*Incentive Plan*"). This opinion is being furnished in connection with the requirements of Item 601(b)(5) of Regulation S-K under the Act, and no opinion is expressed herein as to any matter pertaining to the contents of the Registration Statement or related Prospectus, other than as expressly stated herein with respect to the issue of the Shares.

As such counsel, we have examined such matters of fact and questions of law as we have considered appropriate for purposes of this letter. With your consent, we have relied upon certificates and other assurances of officers of the Company and others as to factual matters without having independently verified such factual matters. We are opining herein as to the General Corporation Law of the State of Delaware, and we express no opinion with respect to any other laws.

Subject to the foregoing and the other matters set forth herein, it is our opinion that, as of the date hereof, when the Shares shall have been duly registered on the books of the transfer agent and registrar therefor in the name or on behalf of the purchasers, and have been issued by the Company for legal consideration in excess of par value in the circumstances contemplated by the Incentive Award Plan, assuming in each case that the individual grants or awards under the Incentive Award Plan are duly authorized by all necessary corporate action and duly granted or awarded and exercised in accordance of the law and the Incentive Award Plan (and the agreements and awards duly adopted thereunder and in accordance therewith), the issue and sale of the Shares will have been duly authorized by all necessary corporate action of the Company, and the Shares will be validly issued, fully paid and nonassessable. In rendering the foregoing opinion, we have assumed that the Company will comply with all applicable notice requirements regarding uncertificated shares provided in the General Corporation Law of the State of Delaware.

This opinion is for your benefit in connection with the Registration Statement and may be relied upon by you and by persons entitled to rely upon it pursuant to the applicable provisions of the Act. We consent to your filing this opinion as an exhibit to the Registration Statement. In giving such consent, we do not thereby admit that we are in the category of persons whose consent is required under Section 7 of the Act or the rules and regulations of the Commission thereunder.

Sincerely,

/s/ Latham & Watkins LLP

99 Bishopsgate London EC2M 3XF United Kingdom

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# INDEPENDENT REGISTERED PUBLIC ACCOUNTING FIRM'S CONSENT

We consent to the incorporation by reference in the Registration Statement of Cipher Mining Inc. on Form S-8 of our report dated March 19, 2021, except for Note 6, as to which the date is May 14, 2021, and revenue recognition in Note 2, as to which the date is June 14, 2021 which includes an explanatory paragraph as to the company's ability to continue as a going concern, with respect to our audit of the financial statements of Cipher Mining Technologies Inc. as of January 31, 2021 and for the period from January 7, 2021 (Inception) through January 31, 2021, which report is incorporated by reference in the Current Report on Form 8-K (File No. 001-39625) filed on August 31, 2021.

/s/ Marcum LLP

Marcum LLP San Francisco, CA November 17, 2021