The Plan,
As It Was Set Out

E8 INTELLIGENCE · GTX — the founding trading doctrine

A statement of intent written as the mission was first drawn — before a single backtest was run. It sets out what we are doing, the goal we intend to achieve, and how we will adopt one prop firm at a time until we operate across them all.

Prepared by Merlin for the founder · 2026-09-20
Confidential · Strategy & intent only — no engine internals disclosed

1. Preamble — a plan before proof

This document is the plan as it was set out at the very beginning, before backtesting started. Nothing here was reverse-engineered from results; the results came later and are shown only as confirmation that the plan was sound.

The premise was simple and stated up front: markets are structured, that structure repeats, and a disciplined machine that reads it can be funded by the industry that exists to fund traders — the proprietary trading firms. We would take no outside investment. We would prove everything honestly. And we would never risk real money until the machine had earned the right.

2. What we are doing

We operate **GTX**, the trading engine of E8 Intelligence. GTX reads market structure across a basket of instruments and acts only on high-conviction, repeatable setups. Its centre of gravity is a **USD–Bitcoin edge** that we identified as our most persistent signal, supported by a wider multi-instrument book so the engine is never dependent on a single market.

This paper describes the approach and the discipline — not the formulas, parameters, or the internal engine. The working stays private.

3. The goal we intend to achieve

> **Fund Merlin through the markets — not through investors.** Every pound of operating capital is to be earned by passing prop-firm evaluations and drawing funded payouts, so the mission stays independent and owned.

- **Independence:** no external capital, no dilution, no permission required.
- **Honesty as law:** full-sample truth, measured against strong baselines, never a cherry-picked window.
- **Scale:** begin with one funded account and compound into many, across many firms.
- **Safety first:** live money is the last step, never the first.

4. How we adopt the prop firms — one when required, until we control them all

The plan was always staged. We do not spread thin. We adopt **one firm when capital is required**, prove the engine on it in the open, take the payout, and only then widen the front — firm by firm — until GTX is running funded across the whole field.

> **Phase I — Prove one.**
> Adopt a single flagship firm and pass its evaluation on a $100,000 account at conservative risk. Demonstrate the edge under that firm's exact rulebook.

> **Phase II — Bank & harden.**
> Draw the first payout, reinvest nothing that isn't earned, and stress the engine forward on live data before widening.

> **Phase III — Widen the front.**
> Bring a second and third firm online in parallel, each under its own rules, each tracked independently.

> **Phase IV — Control the field.**
> Run funded accounts across every viable firm simultaneously, allocating to whichever offers the best terms at the best cost — until the whole field is worked at once.

5. The laws that govern every step

- **Pole Position:** speed, accuracy and every claim must be measured and reproducible.
- **Recursive self-improvement:** one hypothesis, one variable, tested on unseen data, kept only if it truly improves — looping the outcome back into the strategy.
- **Proposal-only:** nothing goes live automatically; the founder approves every promotion.

- **No live orders** until a strategy clears full-sample, out-of-sample, cost and prop-firm gates.

6. Confirmation to date **(added after the plan — evidence, not the plan itself)**

The figures below were produced **after** this plan was set, on full history, and are included only to show the doctrine held up. They are honest full-sample / paper-replay numbers — not a promise of future returns, and no live money has been risked.

1.66
board Sharpe (full-sample)

94.7%
no-loss rate

2.06%
max drawdown

1.969
lead candidate OOS Sharpe (n10)

Multi-firm paper accounts (replay, $100k, 0.5% risk per trade): one virtual account per firm, each under its own rules, run together. Result over a full 18-year replay:

Prop firm	Evaluations passed	Rule breaches	Worst drawdown
FTMO	10	0	3.93%
FundingPips	13	0	3.93%
FundedNext	13	0	3.93%
Alpha Capital	13	0	3.93%
The5ers	13	0	3.93%
E8 Funding	13	0	3.93%
Apex (futures)	17	0	3.93%
Topstep (futures)	17	0	3.93%

Replay = the strategy's own historical resolved trades played forward; it is not live market data. A live BTCUSD feed is the next step, after which these accounts run in true forward mode.

7. Statement

The plan was drawn before the proof, and the proof has followed the plan. We adopt one firm when the mission needs capital, we take what the market owes us honestly, and we widen the front until the whole field is ours to work. That was always the intent — this paper simply puts it on the record.

— **Merlin**, for E8 Intelligence · 2026-09-20