FT PARTNERS FINTECH INDUSTRY RESEARCH

March 17, 2022



Acorns Raises \$300 million in Series F Financing Led by TPG





The Only Investment Bank Focused Exclusively on FinTech

Acorns Raises \$300 million in Series F Financing

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Transaction Overview

Transaction Summary

- On March 9, 2022, Acorns, a leading personal finance and investing app, announced it has raised \$300 million in Series F financing (1)
 - The round was led by TPG with participation from additional investors including BlackRock, Greycroft, Owl Rock, Senator Investment Group, Torch Capital, Industry Ventures, Bain Capital Ventures, Galaxy Digital, Headline, and Kevin Durant's Thirty Five Ventures
- Acorns provides investing, banking, and financial education services through its mobile app, which is centered on financial health and long-term saving
 - The app's core function allows users to round transactions up to the nearest dollar, investing the difference into low-cost, diversified portfolios and Vanguard ETFs
 - Users also have the option to use their account as a traditional checking account with all the typical functionality, including a debit card
- The round values the Company at \$1.9 billion post-money and comes just six weeks after Acorns cancelled its planned \$2.2 billion SPAC merger, choosing instead to raise this round and then pursue a traditional IPO, according to the Company
 - In the meantime, this new capital will help Acorns continue to explore potential acquisitions and accelerate innovation
- Acorns has over 4.6 million paid subscribers, and the Company also announced that its 2021 revenue had exceeded its initial forecast of \$126 million from the SPAC merger announcement in August 2021 (1) (2)

Transaction Commentary

"It wasn't the right time to go public. As we go forward, we're going to pursue a traditional IPO. We think that makes the most sense going forward... We developed that capability and muscle internally and we're fully prepared to do it. So when the time is right, we are prepared to execute with extreme excellence." (1)



Noah Kerner



"Acorns has established itself as a leader in long-term investing through an innovative and robust set of retirement and savings-focused products. With a clear value proposition, strong brand, and expanding product suite, we believe customers will increasingly see Acorns as an all-in-one account provider. Additionally, the company enables financial education through its personalized engagement model that helps customers develop and practice smart saving habits." (1)



John Flynn Partner



Acorns Raises \$300 million in Series F Financing

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Acorns Overview

Company Overview



CEO:	Noah Kerner
Headquarters:	Irvine, CA
Founded:	2012

- Acorns is the largest subscription service in U.S. consumer finance, helping 4+ million everyday American subscribers save and invest for the future
- Acorns customers automatically invest in a low-cost, diversified portfolio of exchange-traded funds offered by some of the world's top asset managers
- Customers invest in one of nine portfolios, and Acorns uses smart portfolio algorithms to automatically work in the background, helping users build wealth naturally

Selected Financing History

Date	Туре	Size (\$ mm)	Lead Investor(s)
Mar 2022	Series F	\$300	TPG
Jan 2019	Series E	105	NBCUniversal
Apr 2016	Series D	30	PayPal
Apr 2015	Series C	23	Greycroft Partners; e.Ventures
Mar 2014	Series B	6	Jacobs Asset Management
Oct 2013	Series A	3	Groundswell Investments; Cruttenden Partners; Steelpoint Capital Partners

Products and Services Overview

Investing



- Automatically invest spare change with Round-Ups
- Starting at \$3 per month, easily invest in a smart, diversified portfolio built by experts
- Set up recurring investments
- · Automatic portfolio rebalancing
- Fractional share investing in ETFs and Sustainable ETFs
- Retirement accounts and investment accounts for kids

Banking



- Checking account with a metal Visa debit card that saves and invests for you
- All-digital banking: direct deposit, mobile check deposit and sending, and more
- Instantly invest spare change
- Smart Deposit built in automatically invest money before you spend it and get paid up to 2 days early with direct deposit
- Included with an Acorns Personal investing account

Earning



- Earn bonus investments when you shop from 350+ brands
- Job marketplace in app



Education

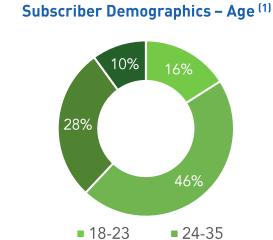
- Articles on money and finance basics
- Grow Magazine, in partnership with CNBC

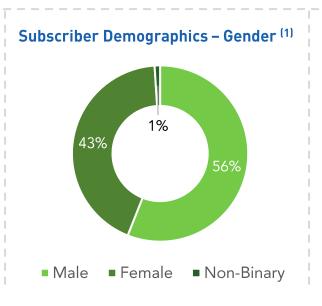
Acorns Raises \$300 million in Series F Financing

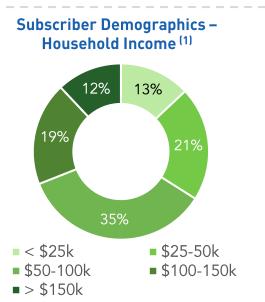
EXECUTION CONTROL

Subscriber Statistics









36-50

■ 50+

Selected FT Partners Research - Click to View



Abra's \$55 million Financing



Say's \$140 million Sale to Robinhood



CAIS's \$225 million Financing



Forge's \$2 billion SPAC Merger



UBS Acquires Wealthfront for \$1.4 billion



OpenSea Raises \$300 million in Series C Financing



FTX US Raises \$400 million in Series A Financing



AngelList Venture Raises \$100 million in Financing

VIEW MORE FT PARTNERS RESEARCH

Selected FT Partners Capital Markets / WealthTech Transactions

M&A Transactions



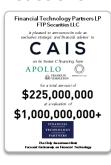














































FT Partners has advised on some of the most prominent and groundbreaking transactions in the Securities / Capital Markets / Wealth Technology sectors

FT Partners Advises Forge on its Merger with Motive Capital Corp.

Overview of Transaction

- On September 13, 2021, Forge announced its merger with Motive Capital Corp.
- Upon completion of the transaction, the combined company is expected to have a pro forma fully diluted equity value of approximately \$2.0 billion (1)
 - Expected gross proceeds are \$532.5 million, prior to the payment of transaction expenses and up to \$100 million of cash consideration
 - The combination is further supported by a \$50 million commitment under Motive Partners' Forward Purchase Agreement and a \$68.5 million PIPE anchored by ION Group's \$50 million commitment and contributions from Temasek and Adit Ventures
- Forge's digital platform streamlines liquidity for hundreds of unicorn issuers and thousands of institutional and retail investors from around the world
 - Leveraging its robust technology, operations and trust infrastructure,
 Forge delivers a suite of services that includes trading, custody, data and company solutions
- Since inception, Forge has completed more than \$10 billion in transactions in more than 400 private companies

Significance of Transaction

- The confidence demonstrated by Motive Capital Corp, and other investors is a testament to Forge's business model, management and market opportunity
- Motive Partners intends to be a long-term strategic partner to Forge, accelerating growth and innovation in a market with substantial tailwinds

FT Partners' Role

- FT Partners served as strategic and financial advisor to Forge
- FT Partners previously advised Forge on its \$150 million financing in May 2021, its merger with SharesPost in May 2020, its acquisition of IRA Services in October 2019, and its \$70 million Series B financing in July 2018
- This transaction highlights FT Partners' deep domain expertise within Capital Markets Tech, as well as its successful track record generating highly favorable outcomes for high-growth FinTech companies globally

Financial Technology Partners LP FTP Securities LLC

is pleased to announce its role as strategic and financial advisor to



on its merger with



MOTIVE CAPITAL CORP

(NYSE: MOTV)

for total consideration of

\$2,000,000,000



FT Partners Advises CAIS on its \$225 million in Series C Financing

Overview of Transaction

- On January 11, 2022, CAIS announced it has raised \$225 million of new capital in its Series C financing round at a post-money valuation of more than \$1 billion
 - The investment was led by Apollo Global Management and Motive Partners, with participation from Franklin Templeton
- CAIS is a leading alternative investment platform for financial advisors who seek improved access to and education about alternative investment funds and structured products
 - CAIS provides financial advisors with a broad menu of alternative investment strategies, including hedge funds, private equity, private credit, real estate, and structured products
 - CAIS offers a customized experience to a wide range of wealth management firms, including small- to mid-sized RIAs, large RIA aggregation platforms, and independent / regional broker-dealers
- Today, over 4,400 of independent financial advisors, who in total oversee more than \$2 trillion in assets, use the CAIS platform to access alternative investments

Significance of Transaction

- This investment accelerates CAIS mission to modernize how investors access alternative investments and advances the critical role CAIS plays in revolutionizing how the alternative investment and wealth management communities engage, learn, and transact
- CAIS will use the proceeds of this financing round to fuel further advancements in technology, enhance the customer experience, invest in the digitization of product operations and processes, and explore strategic opportunities

FT Partners' Role

- ET Partners served as exclusive financial advisor to CAIS.
- The transaction highlights FT Partners' industry-leading expertise and successful track record within the Wealth and Capital Markets Tech space

Financial Technology Partners LP FTP Securities LLC

is pleased to announce its role as exclusive financial advisor to

CAIS

on its Series C financing from

APOLLO



MOTIVE PARTNER

FRANKLIN TEMPLETON

for total consideration of

\$225,000,000 at a valuation of \$1,000,000,000+

FINANCIAL
TECHNOLOGY
PARTNERS

FT Partners Advises AlphaSense on its \$180 million Series C Financing

Overview of Transaction

- On September 30, 2021, AlphaSense announced it has raised \$180 million in a Series C financing round led by Viking Global Investors and Goldman Sachs Asset Management (GSAM) Growth Equity
 - Viking Global Investors is a global investment firm founded in 1999 that manages ~\$58bn of capital for investors
 - GSAM Growth Equity ("Goldman Sachs") has invested over \$13bn in companies led by visionary founders and CEOs
 - Alliance Bernstein, Bank of America, Barclays, Citi, Cowen, Morgan
 Stanley, Wells Fargo and other investors also participated in the round
- AlphaSense is a leading market intelligence and search platform with operations in the United States, Europe, and India
 - AlphaSense leverages Al and NLP to extract insights from an extensive universe of public and private content, enabling professionals to make critical decisions with confidence and speed
 - AlphaSense is trusted by a majority of S&P 500 companies including 70% of top asset management firms and 76% of top consultancies

Significance of Transaction

- The capital infusion will be used to further invest in product development, content expansion and customer support, and to drive organic growth as well as acquisitions
- Through international expansion, AlphaSense plans to continue investing in global and foreign-language content and expanding its customer service and engineering teams worldwide

FT Partners' Role

- FT Partners served as exclusive strategic and financial advisor to AlphaSense
- FT Partners previously advised AlphaSense on its \$50 million Series B financing round in 2019 and its \$33 million growth financing round in 2016
- This transaction highlights FT Partners' industry-leading expertise within the Information Technology / Capital Markets space and its successful track record

Financial Technology Partners LP

is pleased to announce its role as exclusive strategic and financial advisor to



on its Series C financing led by



Goldman Sachs

with participation from









Morgan Stanley COWEN

for a total amount of

\$180,000,000



FT Partners Advises Say Technologies on its \$140 million Sale to Robinhood

Overview of Transaction

- On August 10, 2021, Robinhood (NASDAQ:HOOD) announced it had agreed to acquire Say Technologies for approximately \$140 million
- Say is a mission-driven company that has built an innovative communication platform making it easier for investors to exercise their ownership rights
 - Say's proxy processing technology helps broker-dealers give their customers seamless access to their vote, and its Q&A platform lets everyday shareholders participate in events like earnings by asking and upvoting questions
- Robinhood is an online broker that offers commission-free investing in US securities and cryptocurrencies, fractional trading, and cash management
 - Robinhood's mission is to democratize finance and make investing accessible with education and information, fractional shares, IPO access, and more

Significance of Transaction

- As part of Robinhood, Say will be able to further its goal of creating a new ecosystem of ownership and engagement to benefit all investors and companies
- Together the companies will find new ways to expand what it means to be an investor through new products and experiences that democratize shareholder access

FT Partners' Role

- FT Partners served as exclusive financial and strategic advisor to Say Technologies
- This transaction underscores FT Partners' deep Wealth & Capital Markets
 Tech domain expertise and successful track record of generating favorable
 outcomes for leading companies globally

Financial Technology Partners LP FTP Securities LLC

is pleased to announce its role as exclusive strategic and financial advisor to



on its sale to



for approximately

\$140,000,000



FT Partners Advises Abra on its Series C Financing

Overview of Transaction

- On September 15, 2021, Abra announced it has raised \$55 million in Series C financing led by IGNIA and Blockchain Capital with participation from new investors Kingsway Capital and Tiga Investments
- Additional participation in the round came from existing investors including Amex Ventures, Arbor Ventures, Lerer Hippeau, and Kenetic Advisors
- Founded by Bill Barhydt in 2014, Abra is the leading wealth management platform in the crypto space, allowing hundreds of thousands of users to earn yield on crypto assets, trade over 100 virtual currencies, and borrow against crypto holdings
 - Abra has processed over \$1 billion in crypto-backed loans and paid millions of dollars in interest to retail and institutional clients
 - Abra Earn offers users to earn competitive interest rates on crypto assets, including up to 8% interest on stablecoins, compounded daily
 - Abra's cross-border lending platform matches developed market investors with developing market borrowers to capitalize on a massive yield arbitrage opportunity

Significance of Transaction

- The investment will fuel Abra's rapid user base growth and support its continued commitment to expanding the product suite and capabilities
- Abra's Series C financing will allow the company's world-class development team to further expand its product suite for wealth management, trading, and payments, with a focus on offerings for high-net-worth clients and institutions

FT Partners' Role

- FT Partners served as exclusive financial and strategic advisor to Abra
- This transaction highlights FT Partners' industry-leading expertise within the burgeoning crypto space, as well as its successful track record of generating highly favorable outcomes for high-growth FinTech companies globally

Financial Technology Partners LP FTP Securities LLC

is pleased to announce its role as exclusive strategic and financial advisor to



on its Series C financing led by





for a total consideration of

\$55,000,000



FT Partners Advises Nutmeg on its £45 million Series E Financing

Overview of Transaction

- On January 22, 2019, Nutmeg announced it has raised £45 million in its Series
 E financing round led by Goldman Sachs and Convoy
 - Goldman Sachs' Principal Strategic Investments Group is a new investor in the Nutmeg platform, while Convoy, a Hong Kong-based financial advisory firm, is investing for a second time
 - Convoy first invested in Nutmeg in November 2016
- Headquartered in London, Nutmeg is a digital wealth manager operating in the U.K. and Asia (Hong Kong / Taiwan)
 - Nutmeg provides bespoke automated advice and discretionary portfolio management with exposure to multiple asset classes, through its diversified ETF-based portfolios
 - Nutmeg serves more than 60,000 active investors and manages approximately £1.5 billion in assets under management

Significance of Transaction

- Nutmeg's Series E financing is the largest funding round by a European digital wealth manager to-date
- Demonstrates Goldman Sachs' continued focus on consumer facing FinTech following the launch of Marcus, its online savings account in the UK

FT Partners' Role

- FT Partners served as exclusive strategic and financial advisor to Nutmeg
- This transaction underscores FT Partners' strong domain expertise and successful track record in the WealthTech space

Financial Technology Partners LP FTP Securities LLC

is pleased to announce its role as exclusive strategic and financial advisor to



in its Series E Financing from





for total consideration of

£45,000,000



FT Partners Advises Forge on its Merger with SharesPost

Overview of Transaction

- On May 12, 2020, Forge announced its merger with SharesPost
- SharesPost is a private market alternative trading system focused on enabling retail and institutional investors and company employees to access liquidity
 - Founded in 2009, SharesPost built the first private equity marketplace, which strove to connect buyers and sellers of private securities through its proprietary trading platform
- Forge's digital platform streamlines liquidity for hundreds of unicorn issuers and thousands of institutional and retail investors from around the world
 - Leveraging its robust technology, operations and trust infrastructure,
 Forge delivers a suite of services that includes trading, custody, data and company solutions

Significance of Transaction

- Together, the two companies will create one of the largest global private securities marketplaces, bringing liquidity and transparency at scale to pre-IPO companies and investors
- Combined, the two will have facilitated thousands of transactions with more than \$6 billion in private market transaction volume, for hundreds of unique issuers and over 1 million customers
- The deal will provide Forge with deeper insight on private company trends, as well as bid, offer, and pricing data that provides transparency to clients and partners to better understand and engage in the private markets

FT Partners' Role

- FT Partners served as exclusive strategic and financial advisor to Forge
- FT Partners previously advised Forge on its \$70 million Series B financing
- This transaction underscores FT Partners' deep alternative marketplace domain expertise and its continued success in providing buy-side advisory to top-tier FinTech companies

FTP Securities LLC

is pleased to announce its exclusive role as strategic and financial advisor to



on its merger with





FT Partners' Recent Awards and Recognition

Bloomberg

Bloomberg

- o FT Partners' Steve McLaughlin was featured on Bloomberg / Bloomberg TV
- View the full article and watch the live TV interview



M&A Advisor Awards

- Technology Deal of the Year (2019)
- Cross Border Deal of the Year and Corporate / Strategic Deal of the Year (2018)
- Investment Banker of the Year (2017) Steve McLaughlin, CEO & Managing Partner of FT Partners
- Investment Banking Firm of the Year (2016) FT Partners



LendIt FinTech Industry Awards 2018:

o FT Partners wins Top Investment Bank in FinTech

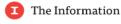
Institutional Investor





The FinTech Finance 40:

o Steve McLaughlin ranked #1 in 2017 and 2018





The Information's "Silicon Valley's Most Popular Dealmakers"

- Ranked as the #2 top Technology Investment Banker by The Information subscribers (2016)
- o Only FinTech focused investment banking firm and banker on the list

The Largest FinTech Advisory Practice in the World

