## FT PARTNERS FINTECH INDUSTRY RESEARCH

February 24, 2021



# Blockchain.com Raises \$120 million in Financing at a \$3 billion Valuation













The Only Investment Bank Focused Exclusively on FinTech

San Francisco • New York • London

#### Overview of FT Partners

- Financial Technology Partners ("FT Partners") was founded in 2001 and is the only investment banking firm focused exclusively on FinTech
- FT Partners regularly publishes research highlighting the most important transactions, trends and insights impacting the global Financial Technology landscape. Our unique insight into FinTech is a direct result of executing hundreds of transactions in the sector combined with over 19 years of exclusive focus on Financial Technology

#### FT Partners' Advisory Capabilities



#### FT Partners' FinTech Industry Research





Named Silicon Valley's #1 FinTech Banker (2016) and ranked #2 Overall by The Information



Ranked #1 Most Influential Person in all of FinTech in Institutional Investors "FinTech Finance 40"



Numerous Awards for Transaction Excellence including "Deal of the Decade"

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## **Transaction Summary**



#### **Transaction Summary**

- On February 17, 2021, Blockchain.com, a cryptocurrency services provider, announced that it has raised \$120 million in financing
  - This round includes several macro investors, including Moore Strategic Ventures, hedge fund manager J. Kyle Bass, Access Industries, Rovida Advisors, Lakestar, Eldridge, and more
  - The round also includes participation from existing investors GV and Lightspeed
  - The Company has raised over \$190 million to date, and this round values it at over \$3 billion post-money, according to Fortune (1)
- According to the Company, it did not need to raise money, but decided to do so in order to further grow its institutional business (1)
  - The Company's institutional business caters to more sophisticated investors, offering cryptocurrency trading, lending, borrowing, and custody
  - This side of Blockchain.com's business has grown significantly in recent years, and is now large enough to cover the entire operating cost of the business globally in addition to providing additional sources of operating profits
- When Blockchain.com raised its Series A in 2014, Bitcoin was worth hundreds of dollars and the Company was powering just over 2 million wallets
  - Six years later, Bitcoin price has crossed \$50k and the Company has created 65 million wallets in 200+ countries
  - 28% of all Bitcoin transactions since 2012 have occurred via Blockchain.com
- When asked if an IPO is on the horizon, Blockchain.com CEO Peter Smith stated that the Company is examining all strategic options with the board <sup>(1)</sup>

#### **Transaction Commentary**

"What excites me most about this moment is the immense optimism about cryptocurrency from serious, institutional investors. In fact, the current bull run is dominated by stories of Fortune 500 companies, investment funds, and institutions driving net inflows into crypto. The fact that the best macro investors in the world participated in our latest fundraise is further proof that institutions are taking a serious look at their crypto strategy."

"In the midst of a global pandemic, we're experiencing an unprecedented level of distrust in traditional financial institutions. An acceleration of commerce online. A fundamental shift for communication, commerce, and investing that will leave the world forever changed ... More than ever before, crypto begins to seem like the real Robin Hood of finance. A decentralized network that creates and stores value for anyone with a mobile device and an internet connection. Companies are adding bitcoin to their balance sheets, central banks are taking notice of the innovations in DeFi, and we're seeing all time high after all time high."



**Peter Smith** CEO & Co-Founder



## Blockchain.com Raises \$120 million in Financing

#### **Blockchain.com Overview**



#### **Company Overview**



Headquarters: London, UK

Founded: 2011

- Blockchain.com offers a digital asset platform and crypto wallet software which has been used by millions of active users across 200+ countries
- In addition to its retail services, the Company also serves institutional investors with cryptocurrency trading, lending, borrowing, and custody services
- Blockchain.com also offers tools for developers and real time transaction data for users to analyze the digital economy

#### **Selected Financing History**

Date	Amount (\$ in mm)	Selected Investor(s)
02/17/21	\$120	Access Industries; Eldridge Industries; GV; Lakestar; Lightspeed Ventures; Moore Strategic Ventures; Rovida Advisors; Individual Investor(s)
06/22/17	40	Lakestar; GV; Nokota Management; DCG; Lightspeed Ventures; Mosaic Ventures; Prudence Holdings; Virgin Group; Undisclosed Investors
10/07/14	30	Lightspeed Ventures; Wicklow Capital; Mosaic Ventures; Prudence Holdings; FuturePerfect Ventures; Undisclosed Investors

#### **Products & Services Overview**



#### **Wallets**

- Over 67 million wallets and over \$6,200 bn transacted
- Lowest fees in the industry
- Best in class security
- Send and receive instantly
- Mobile access



## **Exchange**

- Built by crypto pioneers for speed, reliability, and liquidity
- Deposit and withdraw Euros, Dollars, Pounds, and Lira
- Execute in microseconds with the fastest matching engine in crypto
- Access to both top and emerging cryptocurrencies



#### **Explorer**

- Confirm transactions, analyze the market, or learn more about cryptocurrencies
- Powerful blockchain data API
- Charts ranging from Hashrate, to block details, to mining performance
- Real-time crypto prices with key market signals

#### Selected FT Partners Research - Click to View



Circle's \$25 million Financing



Clearpool's Sale to BMO



Trumid's \$200 million Financing



Forge's Merger with SharesPost



Robinhood Raises \$3.4 billion in Financing



Bakkt Merges with VPC Impact Acquisition Holdings



Stash Raises \$125 million in Series G Financing



Enfusion Raises \$150 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 Circle on its \$25 million Financing

#### Overview of Transaction

- On July 30, 2020, Circle announced it has raised \$25 million in financing from
  Digital Currency Group as part of a strategic partnership with Genesis aimed at
  enhancing Circle's new suite of products for businesses and developers with
  USDC-based yield and lending services
  - Digital Currency Group is the parent company of Genesis
- Circle is a global FinTech firm that enables businesses of all sizes to harness the power of digital currencies and blockchains for payments, commerce and financial applications
  - Circle is the pioneer of USDC, the fastest growing, regulated digital currency backed by the US Dollar
- In Q2 2020, Circle launched its new suite of Platform Services, providing businesses with a comprehensive suite of products and APIs for integrating and implementing stablecoins for payments, global commerce, and financial applications

#### **Significance of Transaction**

- Through the partnership, Circle and Genesis will offer market solutions for businesses and developers who are seeking to generate strong positive yield from their own or customer USDC holdings
- The partnership will also provide access to USDC-based credit for businesses and merchants that are using USDC for treasury operations and business payments
- Circle and Genesis have established a leadership position providing core infrastructure supporting a new global financial system

#### FT Partners' Role

- FT Partners served as exclusive financial advisor to Circle
- This transaction highlights FT Partners' deep domain expertise in the digital asset and and blockchain sectors, 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 exclusive financial advisor to



on its financing from

DIGITAL CURRENCY GROUP

for a total amount of

\$25,000,000



## FT Partners Advises Trumid on its \$200 million Growth Capital Investment

#### Overview of Transaction

- On August 12, 2020, Trumid announced the completion of a \$200 million growth capital investment at a valuation of over \$1 billion led by Dragoneer Investment Group, with participation from new investors including TPG Capital, and funds and accounts managed by BlackRock and T. Rowe Price Associates, Inc
- Trumid is a US corporate bond trading platform that brings trading efficiency and connectivity to credit professionals
- The Company has differentiated itself by collaborating with market participants to create innovative trading solutions
  - Since its launch one year ago, Trumid's Attributed Trading (AT)
    protocol has established a dominant position in dealer streaming and
    bilateral dealer-client trading
- Trumid has experienced extraordinary growth in activity across its trading platform, with volumes up nearly 500% in 2020 from its network that has grown to over 500 institutions worldwide

#### **Significance of Transaction**

 The growth capital from this financing will support broadening of Trumid's trading protocols and expansion into adjacent products and geographies

#### FT Partners' Role

- FT Partners served as exclusive financial and strategic advisor to Trumid
- 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

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



on its financing led by



with participation from



& funds and accounts managed by

BLACKROCK T.RowePrice®

for a total amount of

\$200,000,000



## FT Partners Advises Addepar on its Series D Financing

#### Overview of Transaction

- On June 8, 2017, Addepar announced it has raised \$140 million in Series D financing co-led by Harald McPike, the founder of QuantRes, along with Valor Equity Partners and 8VC
- Headquartered in Mountain View, CA, Addepar is a leading provider of portfolio management and reporting software and services that seeks to become the infrastructure that will connect all aspects of global finance
- Harald McPike is the founder of QuantRes, a quantitative trading firm, and a global private investor with a focus on the financial and technology sectors
- Valor Equity Partners is an operational growth investment firm that does both minority and majority investments in high growth companies at various stages of development
- 8VC is a venture capital firm that makes seed to later stage investments with a focus on the technology industry

#### Significance of Transaction

- The financing capitalizes on Addepar's unprecedented growth from \$300 billion to over \$650 billion assets on platform in less than 18 months as top wealth managers embraced Addepar's category-defining client reporting software
- With the new capital, Addepar will continue investing significantly in R&D, expanding its product, platform and tech-enabled services to unlock more value for its clients while also serving a wider range of wealth and asset management firms

#### FT Partners' Role

- FT Partners served as exclusive strategic and financial advisor to Addepar
- Transaction demonstrates FT Partners' continued leadership position as the "advisor of choice" to the highest quality FinTech companies as well as its deep domain expertise and experience in the WealthTech space

# Financial Technology Partners LP

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



in its Series D financing co-led by



Harald McPike

for total consideration of

\$ 140,000,000



## 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 Moneyfarm on its £36 million Series C Financing

#### Overview of Transaction

- On September 26, 2019, Moneyfarm announced it has raised £36 million in a Series C financing round led by Poste Italiane, the Italian postal and financial services firm
  - Existing investor Allianz Asset Management, the investment arm of global insurer Allianz, also participated in the round
- Headquartered in London, U.K., Moneyfarm is a digital wealth manager operating in Italy, the U.K. and Germany
  - Moneyfarm provides bespoke automated advice and discretionary portfolio management with exposure to multiple asset classes, through its diversified ETF-based portfolios
  - Moneyfarm serves nearly 40,000 active investors, manages over £700 million in assets under management, and is led by its co-founders,
     Paolo Galvani and Giovanni Daprà

#### Significance of Transaction

- Moneyfarm will use the new capital to continue rolling out its digital wealth management services to investors across Europe
- The funding round coincides with the launch of Moneyfarm's strategic partnership with Poste Italiane, creating one of the largest digital wealth management partnerships in Europe
  - Through the partnership, Moneyfarm's unique blend of digital investment advice, human guidance and fully-managed portfolios will be integrated with Poste Italiane's digital platform

#### FT Partners' Role

- FT Partners served as exclusive strategic and financial advisor to Moneyfarm
- FT Partners previously advised Moneyfarm on its £40 million Series B financing and its acquisitions of <u>vaamo</u> and <u>Ernest</u>
- This transaction underscores the long-term nature of many of FT Partners' relationships as well as our strong domain expertise and successful track record in the global Digital Wealth Management space

#### Financial Technology Partners LP FTP Securities LLC

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



on its Series C financing led by



with participation from



for total consideration of

£36,000,000



## 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 <u>\$70 million Series B financing</u>
- 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 Advises Clearpool on its Sale to BMO

#### Overview of Transaction

- On January 22, 2020, Bank of Montreal (BMO) announced that it had signed an
  agreement to acquire 100% of the outstanding shares of Clearpool Group
  ("Clearpool"), an Algorithmic Management System transforming electronic
  trading with a fully customizable suite of trading tools
- Headquartered in New York, Clearpool empowers market participants by providing greater transparency, efficiency and control through next generation trading technology
- Clearpool's solution provides total visibility and control, from strategy to execution, through its cloud-based algorithmic management system, execution and analytics portals
- Bank of Montreal (TSX, NYSE: BMO) is a highly diversified financial services provider based in North America

#### Significance of Transaction

 BMO's electronic platform (Capital Markets, Securities and Equity) has a successful, fast-growing trading business in Canada, and adding Clearpool's capabilities in algorithmic management will allow BMO to deliver next-gen trading technology to its global client base

#### FT Partners' Role

- FT Partners served as exclusive strategic and financial advisor to Clearpool
- The transaction underscores FT Partners' successful track record generating highly favorable outcomes for Capital Markets Technology companies
- This transaction also highlights FT Partners' expertise in bringing our clients together with world class strategic investors and acquirers

# FTP Securities LLC

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



on its sale to





## FT Partners Advises BlackRock on its Acquisition of FutureAdvisor

#### Overview of Transaction

- On August 26, 2015, BlackRock (NYSE: BLK) announced a definitive agreement to acquire 100% of FutureAdvisor
- FutureAdvisor is a leading digital wealth management platform with technology-enabled investment advice capabilities
- BlackRock offers investment management, risk management and advisory services to institutional and retail clients worldwide and has over \$4.7tn in assets under management
- Following the transaction, FutureAdvisor will operate as a business within BlackRock Solutions ("BRS"), BlackRock's investment and risk management platform
- The transaction is expected to close in Q4 2015

#### **Significance of Transaction**

- Combines FutureAdvisor's tech-enabled advice capabilities with BRS' investment and risk management solutions
- Enables BlackRock to provide a B2B digital advice platform, which helps financial institution partners both improve their clients' investment experiences and grow advisory assets
- Empowers partners to meet the growing demand among consumers to engage with technology to gain insights on their investment portfolios
  - Demand is particularly strong among the mass-affluent, who account for ~30% of investable assets in the U.S.

#### FT Partners' Role

- FT Partners served as exclusive advisor to BlackRock
- Highlights FT Partners' continued success advising a broad range of toptier strategic investors across the financial technology landscape

# Financial Technology Partners LP

is pleased to announce its exclusive role as advisor to

# **BlackRock**

in its 100% acquisition of





#### FT Partners' Recent Awards and Recognition

## **Bloomberg**

#### **Bloomberg**

- o FT Partners' Steve McLaughlin was featured on Bloomberg / Bloomberg TV
- o 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

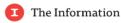
## Institutional Investor





#### The FinTech Finance 40:

Steve McLaughlin ranked #1 in 2017 and 2018





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

- o 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

