FT PARTNERS FINTECH INDUSTRY RESEARCH

March 1, 2018





Uphold Announces Financing, Key Partnership and Acquisition

- 1. \$57.5 million Partnership with Greg Kidd / Hard Yaka
- 2. Acquisition of Cortex MCP

HARD + YAKA





The Only Investment Bank Focused Exclusively on FinTech

FT Partners - Focused Exclusively on FinTech

FT Partners Overview

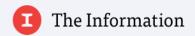
- Financial Technology Partners ("FT Partners") was founded in 2001 and is the only investment banking firm focused exclusively on FinTech
- FT Partners regularly publishes research highlighting the most important transactions, trends and insights impacting the global Financial Technology landscape. Our unique insight into FinTech is a direct result of executing hundreds of transactions in the sector combined with over 15 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"



Overview of Two Transactions



HARD + YAKA

Founder: Greg Kidd
Founded: 2010

- Founded by Greg Kidd, Hard Yaka is venture capital firm with a core focus on portable identity, payments and marketplaces
- Hard Yaka's current portfolio includes Ripple, Coinbase, Shift, LedgerX, Filecoin, Marqeta and Stockpile among others; prior investments include Square, Twitter and Authy (acquired by Twilio)

Hard Yaka Financing and Partnership Transaction Summary

- On January 25, 2018, Uphold announced it has secured a \$57.5
 million financing and strategic partnership with investor Greg
 Kidd and his investment vehicle, Hard Yaka
 - Greg Kidd will be joining Uphold's Board of Directors
- The additional funds will provide enhanced reserve asset protection of digital currencies for Uphold users
 - Uphold will be able to provide aggregate loss reserves of \$25 million, approximately 20% of current crypto holdings
 - No other major exchange of wallet platform in the crypto industry provides similar protection – most provide little to no consumer coverage for loss assurance, a deficiency when compared with insurance like FDIC for fiat
- Uphold also plans to use the committed capital for R&D
 - Funds from Hard Yaka will be directed to create Uphold Labs, for focused R&D on innovation of new products and blockchain services

CORTEX MCP

CEO: Shaunt Sarkissian **Founded:** 2012

- Cortex MCP provides a mobile commerce and authentication platform with IP-protection for retail, transportation and hospitality
- · Offers two solutions for mobile implementation
 - Mobile Commerce Suite for Closed Loop Environments
 - Cortex Mobile Commerce Platform
- Platforms include: RCD Host Token, Pre-Commerce Marketing and Offers Program and OVER File for nonpayment authentication and loyalty

Cortex Acquisition Transaction Summary

- On February 22, 2018, Uphold announced that it has acquired Cortex MCP
 - The purchase includes an acquisition of Cortex's portfolio of patents and IP solutions
- This acquisition will bring Uphold closer to its goal of providing secure end-to-end use of digital currencies and programmable money
- Cortex MCP's founding team will be joining Uphold
 - Founder and CEO Shaunt Sarkissian will head Uphold's payments team





Transaction Commentary

Management Commentary

On the Financing and Partnership with Hard Yaka

"This is a landmark partnership for Uphold and the crypto market. We have always provided our Members with unparalleled transparency and safety, as well as the greatest choice of currencies. Now we're also giving them unprecedented asset protection, and by doing so, we are pushing our industry forward to improve its assurances to all users of digital currency.

For Hard Yaka portfolio companies, we provide our platform of innovative services. And with Hard Yaka, we will be collaborating on financial products that will accelerate our own product development activities, focusing on adding new assets and more connectivity to financial systems and blockchain projects."

On the Acquisition of Cortex MCP

"Cortex's mobile centric, closed loop payment and secure tokenization solutions provide industry leading technologies and security to our platform. It additionally brings new commercial offerings and opportunities to our enterprise division, Uphold Solutions."



Adrian Steckel, CEO

Investor Commentary

"I am impressed by the outstanding quality of Uphold's technology as well as their rigorous compliance practices.

Uphold stands out as an entity that is pioneering the infrastructure, controls, and culture that inspires confidence from regulators and users alike. I'm thankful to get to work with the Uphold team to bolster the already outstanding R&D and compliance foundation at the firm."

HARD + YAKA

Greg Kidd, Co-Founder







Uphold Overview

Company Overview



CEO: Adrian Steckel

Founded: 2014

- Uphold's vision is to provide trusted access to digital money and financial services
- The Company operates a multi-purpose digital money platform, reducing the complexity, cost and risk associated with B2B and B2C transactions
- Uphold's platform enables individuals and businesses to move, convert and transact money or commodities
 - Supports nearly 34 currencies, including cryptocurrencies, fiat and metals
 - Publishes real time proof of holdings and transactions on its publicly accessible ReserveLedger
 - Helps users avoid price volatility and provides efficient and affordable financial services
- The Company has licensed relationships with banks and financial service partners in all major economic zones
- In February 2018, Uphold acquired Cortex MCP, advancing into the payments space

34 Currencies

More than any other major cryptocurrency exchange

Cryptocurrencies

Enables multiple
Fiat : Crypto pairs

Products & Services Overview



FUND

Add funds through bank transfers, credit and debit cards or cryptocurrencies



SEND

Send and receive money from another member, even across borders



CONVERT

Convert money between currencies and precious metals



HOLD

Safely hold funds in the currency of your choosing for any length of time



SECURE

Funds are secured through access and encryption, auditing, testing and due diligence



ASSURANCE

Access to funds is provided at all times, along with access to real time reserve holdings





Interview with Uphold - CEO, Adrian Steckel



Bio: Prior to joining Uphold, Mr. Steckel was the CEO of lusacell (now AT&T Mexico), one of the largest wireless carriers in Mexico, until 2015 when it sold to AT&T in a \$2.5 billion acquisition. In 2005, TV Azteca (one of the two largest producers of Spanish-language television programming in the world) named Mr. Steckel as President and CEO of Azteca America, the company's wholly owned broadcasting network focused on the U.S. Hispanic market. Prior to that, Mr. Steckel built Unefon from scratch, garnering 1.4 million subscribers and more than US\$100 million in EBITDA annually. He also worked as an investment banker at Dillion, Read & Co. Mr. Steckel holds a BA in History from Yale University.

1. Adrian, please tell us about Uphold's business and the history behind the Company. What is your long-term vision for Uphold?

First, About Uphold

The team and I share one vision for Uphold, which is to provide trusted access to digital money and financial services to the many.

How are we doing so?



What we have created is a digital money platform – a wallet that applies blockchain technologies to securely record and transfer value, interconnects legacy banking rails with decentralized cryptocurrency networks, and most importantly complies with regulations.

(continued on next page)

FT PARTNERS RESEARCH



Interview with Uphold - CEO, Adrian Steckel (cont.)

Adrian, please tell us about Uphold's business and the history behind the Company. What is your longterm vision for Uphold?

(continued from previous page)

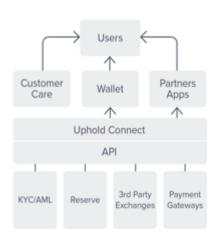
I came to Uphold from a wireless service world that is extremely competitive, where every day our success depended on providing a reliable and accessible service, affordably. The same is true for Uphold. We design our services around making consumer financial use cases simple to access and use. This has been a key to our impressive organic growth to date.

Today, these use cases include crypto-investment, cross-border remittance, devaluation sheltering, international treasury management, robo-trading and token utility enablement. Tomorrow, we envision rapid expansion of the array of investible products and practical use cases, developed to integrate the utility of digital currency with the compliance regulators require, and with the needs of real people and business clients in mind.

Next, Uphold History

I took on the roles of CEO and Chairman in mid-2016. The Company itself was founded in 2014 as BitReserve, with a mission to shield consumers from crypto volatility and banking sector leverage risks by allowing wallet holders instant movement of funds in and out of fiat currencies. That early vision formed the foundation for what we are offering today.

In mid-2016, I led a recapitalization of the Company rebranded as Uphold. We retooled the organization and restructured the executive team. Next, we implemented a more focused consumer wallet and business solutions strategy, retaining the core vision to provide transparent, secure, compliant and scalable access to our services by linking money systems in the US, Europe and elsewhere in North America and Asia.



(continued on next page)

FT PARTNERS RESEARCH

0 uphold

Interview with Uphold - CEO, Adrian Steckel (cont.)

1. Adrian, please tell us about Uphold's business and the history behind the Company. What is your long-term vision for Uphold?

(continued from previous page)

The executive team has been critical to our turnaround: bringing together talent consisting of a new finance lead (Lee Westerfield, our CFO, who has two prior tech exits to his name), a new marketing and consumer lead (Rawdon Messenger, our CMO, with multiple B2C digital service build-ups), promoted leadership of operations (Bill Dennings, elevated to COO, previously senior at Nike and MasterCard), retained leadership of corporate development (JP Theiriot, VC and Cofounder, with multiple prior ventures in his background) and sales (Robin O'Connell, elevated to CRO, with extensive payments experience).

During 2017, Uphold geared its efforts for two sets of customers: consumer wallet holders who exchange on our reserve platform and business licensees that leverage our programmable money platform. To serve consumers and business customers, we honed our compliance regimes, automated financial operations, improved wallet holder UX, systematized pricing and redirected corporate partnership development. This led to product-market fit. Performance ensued. Uphold grew its reserve assets 20x and revenue 60x in 2017.

For 2018, we are executing on several key initiatives: scalability and growth marketing, more currencies and content, improved UX and usability as well as extended licensing and banking connectivity.

FT PARTNERS RESEARCH



Interview with Uphold - CEO, Adrian Steckel (cont.)

2. Adrian, how is Uphold similar or different to companies like Coinbase, Kraken, Gemini and Bitstamp? Does Uphold have any plans to become an exchange?

As I see things, Coinbase and Uphold are alike in several ways, while the other two names here are more traditional exchanges, operate in limited geographies, and so are quite different from Uphold.

Crucially, Uphold does not operate an exchange per se, though if you look at the services we provide, we certainly do provide currency exchange. How our platform is set up provides us an advantage in a market that favors instant low cost, easy to use transaction providers like us. Uniquely, we operate a fully transparent and balanced reserve book of assets and member obligations. We are among the few "exchange services" that bridge legacy money networks like US and EU banking with cryptocurrencies.

I'd like to highlight a few characteristics of Uphold that I feel set us apart:

- 1) More currencies. We support a broad range of currencies and assets (7 cryptos, 23 fiats, 4 precious metals).
- **2)** Open platform for financial services developers. Since our inception, we have focused on an open API to enable third party digital money applications.
- 3) Reserved and transparent. We publish our obligations (deposits) and reserve assets in real time. Uphold always remains more than 100% reserved.
- **4) Fees.** Uphold's fees are significantly lower than those of other retail exchange services.

101.0%							
*3	÷						
\$ 3,007,566,230	6,422,476	\$ 179,161,264	\$ 181,028,630				
6 <u>0</u> 2	6	3	358				
Tier 1	Tie	er 2	Tier 3				
		le to hold, exchange e around the world	Cryptocurrencies and Utility Token available to send and receive for fr				
Currencies available for bank transfers							
Currencies available for bank transfers (i) Mid-market prices	Mid-market pri		Market Prices				
			Market Prices Market spread				
Mid-market prices	⊕ Mid-market prie						

		App Details						Funding		Tradir	ng	Withdrawal	Security
	Туре	Platform	Open API	Reserve Transparency	Bank	Card	Wire	Funds Available	Crypto	Fiat	Commodities	Туре	Туре
uphold	Crypto/Currency FX, Wallet, P2P	iOS, Android, Web	Υ	Y	0.00%	3.99%	0.00%	Instant Funding with 7 day hold	7	23	4	Bank, Crypto	FDIC, Full Reserves
Exchanges a	and P2P												
	Equities/Crypto Exchange	iOS, Android	N	N	0.00%	N	N	Instant Funding with up to 3 day hold	Waitlist -2	N	N	Bank	SIPC
coinbase	Crypto Exchange/Wallet	iOS, Android, Web	Y (GDAX)	N	0.00%	3.99%	\$10	Instant Funding with up to 7 day hold	4	3	N	Bank, PayPal, Wire, Crypto	FDIC
ABRA	Crypto/Currency FX, Wallet, P2P	iOS, Android	N	N	0.00%	4.00%	N	1-3 Days on Bank, Instant on Card	2	50+	N	Bank/Teller (limited)	None
Square Cash	Crypto Exchange, P2P	iOS, Android, Web	N	N	0.00%	Debit	N	Instant via Debit Card or Select Bank	1	N	N	Debit Card/ACH	None
Remittance													
xoom	Money Transfer/Remittance	iOS, Android, Web	N	N	\$2.99	\$4.99	N	Bank Deposit (within 4 Hours) or Pickup	N/A	50+	N	N/A	FDIC
⁷ TransferWise	Money Transfer/Remittance	iOS, Android, Web	N	N	1.00%	1.00%*	1.00%	Currency dependant (early as few hours)	N/A	50+	N	N/A	FDIC

Source: Company

FT PARTNERS RESEARCH



Interview with Uphold - CEO, Adrian Steckel (cont.)

3. Adrian, what are your thoughts about announcements from companies like Square, Robinhood and Circle that enable their customers to buy and sell cryptocurrencies. Do you consider these companies as potential competitors?

Yes, yes we do. These three are each strong companies led by smart folks. We anticipate a lively competitive field with many innovative entrants.

Narrowly, in the heated markets for crypto-exchange, it does not surprise us that high-growth opportunities are attracting new entrants. Circle left the market for crypto two years ago, and is now returning; Robinhood and Square are entering.

Our business logic about competition and innovation is this, that the more successful digital financial service providers will learn how to innovate technology-led offerings, hybridized to conform with regional regulatory authority requirements. Along the way these will become financial institutions themselves – and, in a nutshell, that is why we call Uphold a digital money financial services institution.

FT PARTNERS RESEARCH

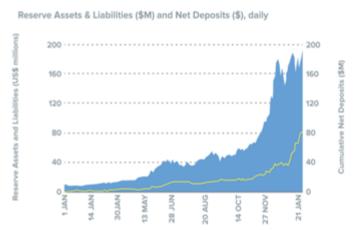


Interview with Uphold - CEO, Adrian Steckel (cont.)

4. Adrian, interest in cryptocurrencies has clearly exploded about the past year. How are you dealing with all of the demand from an operational perspective?

I am proud to say, Uphold has been able to handle the onrush of demand. Our reputation for service and execution during this time speaks to this: we have a nearly 5 star rating on Trustpilot, something rare among our competitors.

Volume growth and Reserve Balance Sheet growth are our clearest metrics. Our Volume doubled in Q4 alone versus the prior lifetime history of Uphold – we handled over \$1B without major outages or disruptions. Our Reserve balance sheet grew twenty-fold during 2017. We believe in Transparency, and these metrics are available to see updated in near-real-time 24 / 7 / 365 on our site.



How we have scaled Volume is useful to understand. Volume growth has been driven by growth across all three of our major KPIs, Customers, Transactions (+10x) and ATV (+50%). These metrics tell only one side of the story. As we scaled rapidly, we also were able to maintain reliable service during the Coin rush because of how we had prepared. Not all of our competitors were able to scale quite so effectively, and so their customers experienced outages. How did we do so? Uphold automated most (not all) of the finops and compliance activities that have allowed for very rapid scaling. We also invested heavily in growing our customer care operation.

We have put a great deal of effort into making sure that our infrastructure is sound and scalable, consciously avoiding marketing spend until we're sure we're ready to scale. That said, when money is involved, either in the context of account verification, network delays or KYC flags, people become apoplectic if things are not instant. We have had some scalability issues, in particular with customer care, but we've hired a new Director and just deployed significant new resources, which are quickly reducing our backlog of support tickets, despite continued transactional and new user growth.

FT PARTNERS RESEARCH



Interview with Uphold - CEO, Adrian Steckel (cont.)

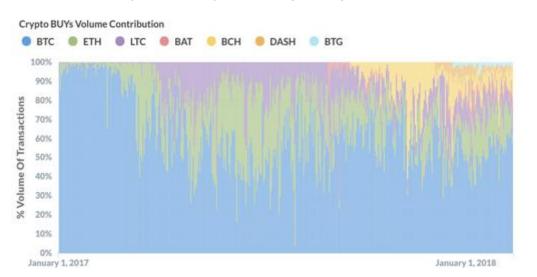
5. Adrian, can you provide us with some insight into the trading activity on your platform? Which are the most active cryptocurrencies? How often are your customers trading? Any notable differences in activity across countries?

Let me answer by pointing to a picture. The chart below shows the diversification of investment in cryptocurrencies by Uphold customers since the beginning of 2017 to the end of January 2018. There are two observations I will make.

First, though Litecoin and Ethereum were both available, there was very little trading activity until Q2 2017.

Second, in Q3 we started adding more coins to the platform. These were all embraced by our users, most notably Bitcoin Cash (BCH), which was deployed within weeks of its fork and well ahead of the competition. Ultimately, Bitcoin remains the standard for our members.

Uphold Mix of Cryptocurrency expanding during 2017:



Uphold Transaction Volume by Territory:



12

FT PARTNERS RESEARCH



Interview with Uphold - CEO, Adrian Steckel (cont.)

6. Given the regulatory uncertainties surrounding cryptocurrencies and ICOs, how do you navigate these waters from a compliance perspective?

We believe that regulation into anything touching money transmission or investment is inevitable and logical.

Our operating principle is that regulators are motivated by two goals, each of which we entirely agree with:

- 1) protecting consumers and
- 2) stopping bad actors.

With rapid change and a precipitous increase in values, it is understandable that regulatory anxiety would pick up. But everything we are seeing thus far suggests that at least insofar as US regulators are concerned, great effort is being made to accomplish the mission without crushing invention. We believe the quality of compliance that is possible in a digital, distributed ledger realm greatly exceeds the current brick & mortar, cash, analog reality, and we believe that in time regulators will come to realize that this is the case with a digital, distributed ledger. In any case, we are first and foremost a company that complies.

7. Uphold is not just focused on the consumer market, but on business solutions as well. Please talk about the B2B opportunities you are pursuing.

Uphold Solutions is our business services arm, which licenses our financial services and technology platform to subscribing business clients, much like a PaaS insofar as we provide a slate of services and a developer applications layer for our client to program money.

Solutions made strong progress in 2017, signing and executing platform licensing agreements with Heleum, Brave and Dash, Unidos, GameLoot, among many others. Not only do these partnerships provide a recurring revenue stream for us, they also open new partner-marketing channels that drive consumers onto our platform. We anticipate announcing many more B2B partners in early 2018.

Thank you Adrian.

FT Partners - Focused Exclusively on FinTech

Selected FT Partners Capital Markets / WealthTech Transactions

M&A Transactions







Financial Technology Partners LP FIP Securities LLC It places for amounts in the a consisting strategy and fluorical abstracts to strategy and fluorical abstracts to strategy and fluorical abstracts to strategy and fluorical abstract to strategy and fluorical



for total consideration of

\$ 20,000,000





Financing Transactions











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

FT Partners – Focused Exclusively on FinTech

Ground-Breaking Payments Transactions Pioneered by FT Partners



Landmark transaction following successful sale of CardConnect to a SPAC only a year earlier



First sale of an "International Payments Specialist" to a pureplay consumer remittance provider



Largest U.S. strategic merchant acquiring acquisition in over the last decade



Substantial growth investment in leading payments enablement technology provider



Significant capital raise for next gen processor serving commerce startups and disruptors



First large-scale transaction for an integrated merchant acquirer



Groundbreaking strategic round for early stage European payments company



First sale of a U.S. merchant acquirer to an international software company; became Sage Payments



First sale of a payments company to an established social media company



First sale of a U.S. merchant acquirer to a large international financial institution; became Worldpay U.S.

FT Partners - Focused Exclusively on FinTech

Significant Experience Across the Banking Technology Space











































FT Partners – Focused Exclusively on FinTech

Award-Winning Investment Banking Franchise Focused on Superior Client Results

Institutional Investor Annual Ranking	2017 2015 - 2016 2006 - 2008	 Ranked #1 Most Influential Executive on Institutional Investor's FinTech 40 List Steve McLaughlin Ranked Top 5 on Institutional Investor's FinTech 35 List Consecutively Ranked (2006, 2007 and 2008) among the Top Bankers on Institutional Investor's "Online Finance 40"
The Information	2016	Ranked #2 Top Technology Investment Banker on The Information's "Silicon Valley's Most Popular Dealmakers"
	2015 - 2017	 Investment Banker of the Year – 2017 Investment Banking Firm of the Year – 2016 Cross Border Deal of the Year - 2016 Dealmaker of the Year – 2015 Technology Deal of the Year – 2015
2017 - 2004 ANNUALAWARDS WINNER M&A Advisor Awards	2010 -2014	 Equity Financing Deal of the Year - 2014 Professional Services Deal of the Year, Above \$100 mm - 2014 Dealmaker of the Year - 2012 Professional Services Deal of the Year, Above \$100 mm - 2012 Boutique Investment Bank of the Year - 2011 Deal of the Decade - 2011 Upper Middle Market Deal of the Year, Above \$500 mm - 2010 IT Services Deal of the Year, Below \$500 mm - 2010 Cross-Border Deal of the Year, Below \$500 mm - 2010
7 tival as	2004 - 2007	 Dealmaker of the Year – Steve McLaughlin – 2007 Business to Business Services Deal of the Year - 2007 Computer and Information Technology Deal of the Year, Above \$100 mm – 2007 Financial Services Deal of the Year, Above \$100 mm – 2007 Investment Bank of the Year – 2004
Middle Market Financing Awards	2006 - 2008	 Equity Financing Dealmaker of the Year – Steve McLaughlin – 2008 Information Technology Deal of the Year – 2008 Financial Services Deal of the Year – 2008 Financing Professional of the Year – Steve McLaughlin – 2006

FT Partners – Focused Exclusively on FinTech

The FT Partners Senior Banker Team

Name / Position	Prior Background	Experience / Education	Years of Experience
Steve McLaughlin Founder, CEO and Managing Partner	Goldman Sachs	 Formerly with Goldman, Sachs & Co. in New York and San Francisco from 1995-2002 Former Co-Head of Goldman Sachs' Financial Technology Group (#1 market share) Wharton M.B.A. 	23
Greg Smith Managing Director	Merrill Lynch J.P.Morgan	 Formerly award winning Equity Research Analyst at Merrill Lynch / J.P. Morgan / Hambrecht & Quist 20+ years of experience covering FinTech as both an Analyst and Investment Banker 	22
Osman Khan Managing Director	pwc	 Former Managing Director / Head of FIG M&A at Alvarez & Marsal 15+ years FIG deal, consulting and assurance experience at PwC 40 Under 40 M&A Advisor Award Winner in 2013 LSE (BSc w/Honors), MBS (MBA w/Distinction), ICAEW (FCA) 	21
Steve Stout Managing Director	J.P.Morgan First Data	 Former Global Head of Strategy at First Data Formerly Led J.P. Morgan Payments Investment Banking Former Equity Research Analyst on #1 ranked team at UBS and Economist at the Federal Reserve Bank 	20
Tim Wolfe Managing Director	Goldman Sachs	 Formerly with Goldman, Sachs & Co. beginning in 2000 Started at FT Partners in 2002 40 Under 40 M&A Advisor Award Winner 2013 Harvard M.B.A. 	16
Timm Schipporeit Managing Director	Morgan Stanley Index Ventures	 11+ years with Morgan Stanley, Senior Executive Director of European Technology Investment Banking Team in London Formerly a Venture and Growth Investor focused on FinTech at Index Ventures 	15
Andrew McLaughlin Managing Director	Deloitte.	 20+ years experience executing / implementing financial and operational strategy Formerly with Deloitte Consulting 	12