

SeedLegals, a London-based automated legal platform for investment rounds, sees its Series B likely next year, said Anthony Rose, CEO and founder.

Brief Summary:

SeedLegals manages the complete fundraising process and all legal contracts for startups through its automated platform.



Investors:

Index Ventures, Kima Ventures, The Family and Seedcamp.

CEO and founder:

Anthony Rose





Interesting Fact:

The duo behind Seedlegals met at a party and connected over their frustrations with paying lawyers the same fees repeatedly for the same legal documents for every funding round and the lengthy timeframe it takes to complete transactions. If one can buy a divorce online, surely one can automate and complete a fundraise online as well, they questioned, and SeedLegals was born.



Tradeteq, a London-based provider of an electronic trading platform for trade finance assets, is evaluating the timing of its next capital raise, said Christoph Gugelmann, co-founder and CEO.

Brief Summary:

Tradeteq allows non-bank investors to expand into trade finance. It offers an electronic trading platform, Al-driven credit scoring and "Securitisation as a Service," which transforms trade finance assets into capital markets products by issuing notes via a Luxembourg special purpose vehicle, based on standardized legal agreements.



Investors:

Accelerated Digital Ventures and GTR Ventures

CEO and founder:

Christoph Gugelmann





Interesting Fact:

Given the current environment with the pandemic, Tradeteq is evaluating whether it makes sense to move forward with a raise this year or delay it until early 2021.



ErisX, a Chicago-based digital asset exchange platform, may raise capital later this year, depending on the market, said Thomas Chippas, CEO.

Brief Summary:

ErisX offers individuals and institutions a single platform to access digital asset spot and futures markets, according to the company. (Founded 2017).



Investors:

Arc Light Securities, Castle Island Ventures, Dragonfly Capital Partners, Flow Traders, Tradestation, NYDIG, Cboe Global Markets, CMT Digital, ConsenSys, CTC, DRW Venture Capital, ED&F Man Capital Markets, Nasdaq Ventures, Pantera Capital, Susquehanna International and Virtu Financial, Bitmain, Fidelity Investments, Monex Group and TD Ameritrade

CEO:

Thomas Chippas





Interesting Fact:

In May, ErisX announced it had launched the first US Ether futures contracts



Botkeeper, a Boston, Massachusetts-based Al-powered accounting platform, will begin its Series B raise in a few weeks, said Enrico Palmerino, CEO and founder.

Brief Summary:

BotKeeper is an artificial intelligence accounting platform designed to automate the manual processes for bookkeeping.



Advisors: Fox Rothschild

Investors:

Ignition Partners, Greycroft and Gradient Ventures, Halfcourt Ventures, Sorenson Capital, Julian Brodsky, CPA Founder and CFO of Comcast and later Comcast Ventures, Stephen Messer, Al founder of Linkshare and Collective[i], Mike Volpe, former CMO of Hubspot and current CEO at Lola, Boston VC Jeff Fagnan, partner at Accomplice, and professional basketball player Matthew Dellavedova

CEO and founder:

Enrico Palmerino





Interesting Fact:

Botkeeper anticipates continued growth even amid the COVID-19 crisis, CEO Enric Palmerino noted. Botkeeper's automation platform offers companies options for saving money on and streamlining accounting services during times of economic downturn. Historically, accounting services continue to grow during recessions as accounting is a government-mandated need for tax purposes, the CEO said.



FundedByMe, a Stockholm, Sweden-based crowdfunding platform, is seeking international joint venture partners, said Daniel Daboczy, CEO and co-founder.

Brief Summary:

FundedByMe has raised €65m for companies using its platform and it has 250K registered investors on its site. Investors that have invested using FundedByMe's platform include angel investors, high net worth individuals, celebrities, investor firms and strategics. FundedByMe is agnostic in terms of verticals, but popular ones include apps, technology and food and beverage.



Interesting Fact:

Additionally, the company could evaluate acquisition opportunities to expand its service offering. While there are no deals expected in the near-term, it has looked at a few opportunities that fell through during negotiations, Daboczy explained. Companies involved in investor relations or crowdfunding in a new country would be of interest. Any buys would be funded via shares or a combination of shares and capital, he said.



Tradis.ai, an Al-driven asset management startup, is seeking capital, CEO and co-founder Matus Poruban told this news service.

Brief Summary:

Tradis is completely driven by AI, Poruban said. From the time a client transfers funds to Tradis' wallets until the time they "cash-out" the company's AI engine is capable of executing trades for the client without any human intervention at all, he said.



Interesting Fact:

There is some competition from others who are trying to enter the space, but what differentiates Tradis is that some of its early internal users have already made significant profits on their trades in 2019, Poruban said. Additionally, some of the competition charges investors monthly fees. Tradis will be offering a model where it only charges investors after they make a profit. It also does not plan to charge transaction fees, the CEO said.said



◆Elsen, a Boston, Massachusetts-based company that has created a platform that makes it easier for financial institutions to access both external and internal data for creating investment strategies, could become an attractive acquisition target if it demonstrates success in its market, said Zac Sheffer, CEO and co-founder.

Brief Summary:

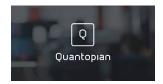
Elsen is a software-as-a-service platform for financial institutions, hedge funds, mutual funds, and buy-side asset managers. Its nPlatform is simple and user-friendly, allowing portfolio managers to quickly pull and analyze important data in minutes. The platform is able to serve clients ranging from USD 10m to USD 700bn in asset size, according to Sheffer.



Advisors: Foley & Lardner

Investors:

Accomplice, Boston Syndicates (BOSS), Hyperplane Venture Capital, Launch Capital, Sequoia Strategic Advisors, and Bret Siarkowski



Quantopian, a Boston, Massachusetts-based crowd-sourced investment firm that supports algorithm authors, is looking at its funding options now and will likely raised its Series D found next year, said John Fawcett, CEO and founder.

Brief Summary:

The company's crowd-sourced technology platform allows finance professionals, scientists, developers, and students to write investment algorithms. Quantopian then licenses these algorithms that fit their investment strategy created by these various authors, who receive a performance-based royalty fee for their investment algorithms.

website



*DeepMoney.ai, a Bogota, Colombia-based company creating autonomous trading robots that can take and exit market positions without human intervention, will use this technology within its own fund which it is launching in October.

Brief Summary:

DeepMoney.ai is creating creating new solutions for investing in capital markets using artificial intelligence.



Interesting Fact:

At this moment, the risk is not so much machines against humans, the challenge is how we can use technology to improve the quality of life. It is a human opportunity and I think it is going to be an opportunity for all of us. It is not as much a danger but more an opportunity to reflect on how we can take advantage of all this capacity we have, CEO Kaushal Sheth told Fintech Horizons.



BOWNERA

Most Recent Coverage:

Ownera, a company that is building a "blockchain for ownership" using the Hyperledger Fabric that is headquartered in Vaduz, Liechtenstein, although it has employees in London, Israel and greater Los Angeles, is raising a seed round and views building partnerships with investment banks as a top priority as it builds out its platform, CEO and co-founder Ami Ben-David told this news service.

Brief Summary:

a company that is building a "blockchain for ownership" using the Hyperledger Fabric that is headquartered in Vaduz, Liechtenstein, although it has employees in London, Israel and greater Los Angeles website



OnPointe, a St. Joseph, Michigan-based company providing tools to financial services firms that help those firms effectively evaluate and communicate risks to their clients, may seek capital next year to advance its toolset, CTO Rob Harbin.

Brief Summary:

More advisors need to answer the client's question of how much capital could I lose in a certain portfolio, compared to how much could I profit in an alternative portfolio, said Harbin. OnPointe's "Risk Analyzer" tool matches the risk score preferred by the client to a distinct group of stocks, he added. The match is made by demonstrating to the advisor's client, for example, a portfolio of 15 stocks performed at the risk level desired for the past 10 years.





♦ Algo-Logic, a San Jose, California-based company providing FPGA-accelerated trading products, is considering a capital raise which could be a Series A, private equity, or super angel funding, CEO John W. Lockwood told this news service.

Brief Summary:

Algo-Logic's Tick to Trade system was initially launched about two years ago, and is now used by Chicago Mercantile Exchange traders to accelerate trading of futures and options. Algo-Logic also just recently launched an FPGA-accelerated product for equity traders that performs pre-trade risk checks.



Interesting Fact:

Algo-Logic could eventually become a target for a strategic buyer and at some point a public offering could also be of interest to the company, the executive said. Lockwood holds BS, MS, PhD degrees in Electrical and Computer Engineering from the University of Illinois at Urbana/Champaign.





Omniex, a San Francisco-based company that has developed an institutional-grade trading and investment platform for crypto assets, is likely to raise its Series A round by the end of the year, CEO and co-founder Hu Liang told this news service.

Brief Summary:

Omniex' platform is an algorithmic execution and smart order routing service. The platform provides position management, market data, and an OTC settlement center. It integrates with banks, fund accounting, wallets and custody and also offers portfolio risk and compliance tools.





©Enyx, a Paris-based company that makes technology that improves the performance of trading firms, may raise external capital to finance some growth initiatives but has not yet made firm plans, a source familiar with the company told this news service.

Brief Summary:

a Paris-based company that makes technology that improves the performance of trading firms website

May 17, 2019



Most Recent Coverage:

ALGOTrader, a Zurich-based designer of trading software for all asset classes, including cryptocurrencies, has just started raising its Series A round, a source familiar with the company told this news service.

Brief Summary:

a Zurich-based designer of trading software for all asset classes, including cryptocurrencies website



*Bitsian, a New York City-based startup that is developing an institutional-grade cryptocurrency trading platform, is now working on its Series A round, CEO and co-founder Raakhee Miller told this news service.

Brief Summary:

The company's trading platform includes real time bids and offers across multiple exchanges, preview pricing, a smart order router, as well as synthetic pairs, for trading any coin to any coin with implied pricing and multi-leg trade support, according to company information.





♦ StockQuanta, a New Jersey-based startup that uses distributed computing and real-time data science to help users select stocks and allocate wisely, is likely to need investors by July or August if everything goes according to plan, founder Ashish Gupta, told this news service.

Brief Summary:

The company, which aims to provide transparency into the stock markets to help people invest more responsibility, was founded in November 2018 and is set to launch its StockQuanta platform in alpha by the end of April. "My goal is to bridge the gap between professional Wall Street and hedge fund investing and how Main Street invests," he explained. That means empowering investors to look for opportunities they might be missing because they can't sort and compare them manually, Gupta said.





Swarm, a Palo Alto-based blockchain-technology startup whose platform is used for issuing security tokens, could eventually raise capital via another private token sale, COO Chris Eberle told this news service.

Brief Summary:

The company is now operating a stake-to-issue model. This means if an issuer successfully raises capital, .5% to 1% of the proceeds are placed in Swarm tokens that are held for the life of the token. Swarm doesn't generate an income stream from stake-to-issue, but the model ensures that an issuer "has skin in the game," Eberle said.



Interesting Fact:

Swarm's network is not exclusive, as anyone can build services on top of it. Swarm plans to offer its own value-added services on the network. Eberle said he envisions Swarm's platform growing into something similar to Android's, where many apps work together via a common underlying infrastructure. Eberle joined Swarm as an advisor in 2017. He is an alumnus of Syracuse University and of The Harvard Business School.



Alpaca, the San Francisco-based creator of an online trading platform developed by software engineers-turned-traders, may seek to raise between \$5m and \$10m in a Series A round this year, said Yoshi Yokokawa, co-founder and CEO.

Brief Summary:

Though Alpaca does not charge commissions, it does receive payments for routing user orders to market makers and exchanges. It also drives revenue from interest on cash deposits, margin financing and stock loan fees for Alpaca users who want to borrow stock to sell short.



CEO:

Yoshi Yokokawa





Interesting Fact:

Alpaca was started as a database company in 2015 aimed at establishing a comprehensive solution for unstructured data, visual data and eventually time-series data that could be used by different industries. Through this work, Alpaca hit on the idea to create a commission-free, stock-trading platform to serve a growing community of software developers and technology-minded individuals.



Aspire, a Las Vegas-based startup developing a platform for users to create their own digital assets, is planning to start its token sale in Q1, co-founder Jim Blasko said.

Brief Summary:

Aspire is similar to Litecoin and is fully pre-mined, Blasko told this news service. Aspire now has 15 software developers, a group that is "small but quite efficient," the co-founder said. The company plans to use proceeds of the token sale to add additional developers to scale the project and create more apps to run on its platform, Blasko said.



Interesting Fact:

In addition to founding Aspire, Blasko is also a co-founder of bCommerce Labs and Bitcoin Talk Radio. He is an experienced programmer who started mining bitcoin early on using a \$100-dollar laptop.



Securrency, a NYC-based company selling a platform for customers who want to issue security tokens, is in the process of raising a Series A round, co-founder and board member, Ron Poe said.

Brief Summary:

Security tokens could solve a myriad of problems associated with established financial markets, Poe explained. The ability for private companies to tokenize assets could increase access and liquidity, for investors in the private market, which is currently limited. For smaller companies that may struggle with the high costs related to going and staying public, security tokens could provide them access to similarly large pools of potential investors.



Interesting Fact:

Poe co-founded Securrency along with CEO Dan Doney and COO John Hensel. The three co-founders all attended the U.S. Naval Academy where they initially met. The group reconnected at their 20-year reunion, and later started Securrency, Poe said.



◆Edge, the San Diego, California-based creator of a noncustodial wallet for multiple cryptocurrencies, is in the process of closing a seed round, CEO and co-founder Paul Puey said.

Brief Summary:

San Diego-based Edge launched its first bitcoin wallet in 2014. It then spent about a year and a half developing a more advanced version capable of supporting several cryptocurrencies in addition to platform technology which now supports other applications, the CEO said.



CEO:

Paul Puey





Interesting Fact:

Puey holds degrees in Electrical Engineering and Computer Science from UC Berkeley. Prior to co-frounding Edge, he held lead engineering positions with Nvidia and Chromatic Research and also owned and operated several non-technical small businesses in California. He is an advocate for bitcoin and an avid rock climber who frequently climbs at Joshua Tree.



Flipsr, a startup developing an interface for crypto asset management, is now seeking a seed round, CEO Rossco Paddison told this news service.

Brief Summary:

The company is creating what it says is a new class of product for desktop and mobile applications. Its interface connects the best features found in hot wallets, cold wallets, and decentralized exchanges.



CEO:

Rossco Paddison





Interesting Fact:

Flipsr will initially charge a 0.1% fee for exchange transactions, but eventually, it would like to reduce that fee even more for end-users. Once its tech is adopted, the company expects there will be a myriad of ways to generate revenue. This is likely to include income from referrals and integrations, the CEO said.

Jan 18 2019



Most Recent Coverage:

Mint Exchange, the Palo Alto, California-based creator of a clearinghouse that allows institutional investors to trade cryptocurrencies across multiple exchanges, expects to expand its investor base in 2019, chairman Harpal Sandhu told this news service.

Brief Summary:

While Mint Exchange is a separate entity from Integral, it licenses Integral's software and its clearinghouse is built on top of Integral's Forex trading platform.



chairman:

Harpal Sandhu





Interesting Fact:

In addition to being Mint's chairman, Sandhu is also CEO of Integral, a firm he co-founded in 1993. Integral has more than 200 customers of its trading platform, including a number of large investment banks and asset management firms.



VRBex, a Houston, Texas-based company developing a cryptocurrency-focused financial services firm, is seeking capital to build out its business platform, CEO Gene Grant told this news service.

Brief Summary:

VRBex is planning to build a digital-assets focused financial services platform, which will include a cryptocurrency exchange, a security token trading platform, custody services, traditional banking services, and banking services for crypto-assets.

website

Interesting Fact:

Within two years, it is very likely there will be a large wave of consolidation in the crypto space, Grant said. VRBex could become a "tasty" acquisition target for a strategic buyer looking to enter the regulated banking space, he said. The most logical acquirer would an off-shore bank or potentially a US-based regional bank that wants access to the digital-currency space. It will be much easier for them to buy a company rather than building such services in-house, he explained. Large private equity firms could also be included in a potential universe of buyers, he said.





*Blockchain App Factory, a Chennai, India-based company offering a wide range of blockchain-related products and services, is now considering a capital raise, a company source told this news service.

Brief Summary:

Blockchain App Factory has completed 42 projects and is working on 20 more. The company is headquartered in Chennai, India and was founded eight years ago. It has been bootstrapped to date and it is profitable.



Interesting Fact:

Eventually, Blockchain App Factory will likely become an acquisition target for a strategic buyer, the source said. This most likely will occur once there is more regulatory clarity in the industry and blockchain technology becomes more mainstream, the source said. In the next three to four years, digital assets will be more ubiquitous, and STOs will start to take the place of traditional offerings, including IPOs, he said.



Fincross, a startup developing a cryptocurrency-focused investment bank, is seeking equity investment as it prepares to launch its banking platform in January, a company source told this news service.

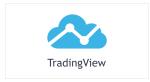
Brief Summary:

Fincross's distributed ledger will allow its users to create smart contracts, enabling them to launch ICOs, STOs, tokenized securities, and create debt and financing contracts. The company also plans to offer crypto custody, a crypto exchange, and asset management and advisory services.



Interesting Fact:

Companies that could be considered competitors include Galaxy Digital and SEBA, two other firms developing crypto-focused investment banks, the source said. That said, there are some key differences between those companies and Fincross, the source added. Those companies are strictly focused on institutional offerings, whereas Fincross is planning to serve retail investors and smaller private funds, as well as large institutional clients. Fincross is also launching its own proprietary blockchain and heavily focused on leveraging Al software solutions, the source explained.



◆TradingView , the Chicago, Illinois-based company that has created a social network for traders and investors, expects to apply its recent \$37,000,000 venture round to assist international expansion, said co-founder and COO Stan Bokov. At the same time, the company's rapid organic growth is expected to continue, he added.

Brief Summary:

TradingView applies a chart-based approach to supporting investment ideas, and encourages chat among traders. Its trading community shares, critiques, and attempts to advance investment ideas presented as charts, in contrast to other sites such as Seeking Alpha.



Investors:

JumpCapital, Insight Venture Partners, DRW Venture



◆Bloq, a Chicago-based provider of blockchain technology solutions, is in the midst of finalizing a growth round and plans to launch a security token offering (STO) in the first quarter of 2019, chairman and co-co-founder Matthew Roszak told this news service.

Brief Summary:

Chicago-based Bloq helps businesses create and deploy blockchain-based solutions. The company was founded in November 2015. In February 2017, it purchased Skry, a Palo Alto-based blockchain analytics firm, for an undisclosed sum.



Interesting Fact:

Roszak is a well-known investor and entrepreneur who has taken to heart the mission of promoting the utility of blockchain to a wider audience. Roszak first introduced former president Bill Clinton and entrepreneur Richard Branson to Bitcoin, according to a February 2018 article published in Forbes, which estimated Roszak's crypto net worth at between \$900,000,000 and \$1,000,000,000.

ABRA

Most Recent Coverage:

*Abra, the San Francisco-based startup which offers the BIT10 Index token, likely will go after another capital raise in the next six months to help fuel the global expansion of its platform, said Bill Barhydt, CEO.

Brief Summary:

Abra recently introduced the BIT10, a new token that tracks the Bitwise 10 Large Cap Crypto Index. The BIT10 tracks the 10 largest assets that currently make up 80% of the cryptocurrency market. Retail investors who want exposure to Crypto currencies, such as Ethereum, Bitcoin or Digibyte, can purchase the BIT10 token through Abra's app.



Co-founder:

Pete Kelly





Interesting Fact:

Barhydt said Abra's international growth is increasing rapidly, with more users from the United Kingdom, Europe, Singapore and Nigeria. First-generation Bitcoin investors are driving some of the growth of the BIT10 token, re-investing gains in Bitcoin into the BIT10, added Barhydt.



*Kanga Exchange, a startup, which runs an exchange for the listing and trading of ICOs, will launch a presale of its token later this year, with its ICO launch planned for 2Q 2019, CEO Slawomir Zawadzki told this news service.

Brief Summary:

Kanga is capable of handing the full ICO process, including automatic token listing following the ICO. It is adding tools for ICOs, including a personal token creator and a smart contract builder and validator. The company's exchange was designed for utility tokens and built in-house.





Token IQ, a Scottsdale, Arizona-based company that helps businesses with issues related to the tokenization of securities and asset-backed investments, is raising another round of equity financing, said Aleksander Dyo, co-founder and President.

Brief Summary:

Token IQ works with startups, investors, public and private enterprises and financial institutions on issues related to security tokenization. Such issues include token creation and issuance, KYC compliance, investor management, and market making mechanisms such as futures, options and swaps.



website



◆Totle, the Detroit, Michigan-based creator of a trading platform for ERC-20 tokens, is planning its own token sale and could become an attractive target as the crypto market ripens, CEO and co-founder David Bleznak told Fintech Horizons.

Brief Summary:

Totle is an order routing, peer-to-peer trading platform, which aggregates order books from multiple decentralized exchanges, including Kyber Network, Radar Relay, AirSwap and Bancor. The platform is now in beta and is currently offered free of charge.



Interesting Fact:

As the crypto market ripens and Totle's platform continues to mature, it is likely the company will become an attractive acquisition target for a strategic buyer, Bleznak said. Larger retail trading exchanges which have yet to enter the space, are a potential universe of buyers and could eventually show interest in Totle, the CEO noted.



CriptoHub, a Sao Paulo-based company developing a cryptocurrency exchange, is interested in raising equity, a source familiar with the company said.

Brief Summary:

a Sao Paulo-based company developing a cryptocurrency exchange website