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28 November, 2017





n funding round-up: 23 June 2017

Follow 117 Written by Antony Peyton

<u>@banking.</u>
ird day in a row we present a fintech funding round-up. The previous two were <u>here</u> and <u>here</u>. Our latest report features n, Julia Computing and Mswipe Technologies.

We'll begin with a confusing company name. **Blockchain** (yes, really), a UK-based software platform, has raised a Series B of \$40 million with Lakestar and GV (formerly <u>Google Ventures</u>) with additional participation from Nokota Management and Digital Currency Group. Its existing investors – Lightspeed Venture Partners, Mosaic Ventures, Prudence Holdings, Virgin, and enigmatic recluse Sir Richard Branson (Virgin Group) – also participated in the round.

Blockchain says this is the "largest Series B raised by any digital currency company to date" and brings its total capital raised to over \$70 million. The money will be used for extremely vague aspirations in research and development, and global expansion.



California-based **Julia Computing** has revealed a seed funding of \$4.6 million from investors General Catalyst and Founder Collective. The firm offers Julia, an open source computing language for data, analytics, algorithmic trading, machine learning and artificial intelligence (AI).

Julia Computing CEO Viral Shah says the investment helps it "accelerate product development". The firm was founded in 2015 and a few examples of Julia in use include at asset manager <u>BlackRock</u>, which uses it for its Aladdin analytics platform; and at Aviva, the UK's second-largest insurer, for compliance models.

In India, **Mswipe Technologies**, a mobile PoS (point of sale) solutions provider, has raised \$31 million in Series D round of funding from a group of investors, including UC-RNT fund, a joint venture between RNT Associates and the University of California. Existing investors DSG Consumer Partners, Falcon Edge Capital and Matrix Partners India participated in the round. The latest round takes Mswipe's total funding raised to over \$56 million. The firm will use the funds to grow its merchant network in India.

However, at the same time, Axis Bank is understood to be selling 190,500 of its equity shares in Mswipe – an 8% stake in the firm – resulting in a total cash consideration of IND 809.4 million (\$12.5 million). According to *The Hindu*, this is because the private sector bank is "reeling under bad loans and there is pressure on the provisioning front".

Antony PeytonFollow Antony Peyton at @TonyBankingTech

Tags; Blockchain, FinTech, Julia Computing, Mswipe Technologies, Artificial intelligence, Funding, Innovation, News

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VMware and Amazon grow hybrid cloud tie-up



VMware and Amazon Web Services (AWS) are expanding their hybrid cloud partnership to run VMware workloads at "very large scale" on AWS, a VMware executive says. VMware is launching new tools for migrating and scaling production applications to AWS, as well as business continuity and disaster recovery services, reports Enterprise Cloud News (Banking Technology's sister [...]

Tags; Amazon Web Services, AWS, FinTech, VMWare, Cloud, Financial Services, News, Partnerships

Fintech funding round-up: 28 November 2017



No slowing down when it comes to the fintech funding action and this week we've got three of the latest stories for another ever-informative round-up. Featuring MoneyMe, TreasuryXpress and Chip.

Tags; chip, crowdfunding, FinTech, Moneyme, savings, TreasuryXpress, Funding, Innovation, Lending, Mobile, News, Payments

EC's PSD2 regulatory technical standards set for 2019



With PSD2 on its way in January next year, the European Commission has confirmed the deadline for its regulatory technical standards (RTS) will be around September 2019. By way of recap, the security measures outlined in RTS stem from two key objectives of PSD2: "ensuring consumer protection and enhancing competition". RTS introduces requirements that payment [...]

Tags; EC, European Commission, FinTech, paytech, PSD2, Europe, Innovation, News, Payments, Regulations

Nordea finds fintech heaven with Nordic angel network



Nordea's start-up and growth unit has unveiled a new partnership agreement with Nordic Business Angel Network (NordicBAN), a network of start-up investors in the Nordics and Baltics.

Tags; FinTech, Nordic Business Angel Network, NordicBAN, Europe, Funding, News, Partnerships, Start-ups

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