Perspectives



Future of Fintech in Capital Markets

Brad J. BaileyResearch Director
Celent Securities

Moving to a Digital Capital Market

The bank has traditionally sat in the center of the financial world. The changing regulatory environment and the explosion of data have allowed fintech firms to capture market share in traditional banking endeavors such as payments, lending, investments, and financial planning. Firms with no asset base or legacy banking infrastructure have made significant inroads into challenging banks in their core businesses. Banks have reacted in a variety of ways to these challenges with disparate degrees of success, but only those actively partnering with and supporting fintech innovators have gained a competitive edge.

Access to connectivity, alternative models, and acceptance, combined with the earth-shaking changes in the ability of firms to access capital and a global regulatory model that has focused on risk mitigation, have created an ideal world for disruptors to partner with capital market

firms. Fintech in the capital markets is driven by the needs of incumbent market participants who want to gain deep insight into technologies and alternate business models. Recent funding and innovation are centered on creating a better and more robust financial center, impacting the core of trading, markets and security servicing — the entire value chain of the capital markets.

Many of these fintech disruptors are modeling entirely new conceptions of investing, trading, clearing, settlement, and custody in the search for a means to create a robust infrastructure; some of these players have created technology solutions in other verticals, or other parts of financial services, and are bringing their solutions to the capital markets. Others are creating more effective point solutions to address critical pain points in market infrastructure, post-trade, and access to capital to create new efficiencies.

— Brad Bailey, Research Director, Celent

At its heart, Capital Market Fintech is about data — leveraging the multitudes of data sources that are resident or available to create alternative business models for disrupting the capital markets. Accessing, processing, and analyzing data is the essential undertaking of capital market fintech firms.

Fintech is a term used to describe how a new generation of cloud and mobile technologies impact processes in financial services. Fintech is closely related to open service architectures using application programming interfaces (APIs) along with business models found in the internet economy. In the first phase, fintech was seen as a disrupter for large established financial companies. Now that these companies as well as regulators are responding to raise the level of customer protection, we are at the cusp of a next wave, where the financial incumbents become platforms-hosting and interoperating with newer, smaller players. Without a doubt, the financial industry will change its technology model, and will foster the integration of services, as long as the customer protection is maintained.

Technology has been a source of structural change for exchanges. In recent years, the pace of change has dramatically increased as a confluence of regulatory, capital, and business model factors has disrupted the financial market ecosystem

This looks at the value accretion that can be achieved through partnerships between fintech firms and market infrastructure players, in terms of connectivity, distribution, technical, and regulatory expertise across areas that are core to the future of a well-functioning financial system.

Capital Flow

Since 2008, capital flow into fintech investments has grown sixfold. Last year, there was a drop from the record fund raising in 2015, with about \$19 billion in capital was invested in fintech across approximately 1,200 deals, nearly doubling funding flows in 2014. At the same time, strategic firms have developed innovation centers of excellence, laboratories, and their own CVC funding vehicles to invest and guide in areas of core interest to these firms. CVCs now represent 25% of global fintech capital flows. European CVC rates are closer to 15% and expected to rise. We have seen banks partnering with fintech, filling gaps and bringing critical experience and enterprise scale to these endeavors. Major parts of the financial services ecosystem run the risk of being transformed by pioneering financial technology firms.

CAPITAL MARKET **FINTECH INCUMBENTS** · Access to capital Distribution **Business model** · Trusted intermediary Innovative approaches New models for access Infrastructure Technology · Existing connectivity Technology · Data access Alternative technology Expertise Lean cloud or as-a-service · Market structure Regulation Compliance

The changes in the ability of firms to access capital in the post-crisis world, combined with a global regulatory model that has focused on risk mitigation and deleveraging, has put significant pressure on incumbents' margins and negotiation power, creating a generational shift in the relationship between the sell side, buy side, and infrastructure firms.

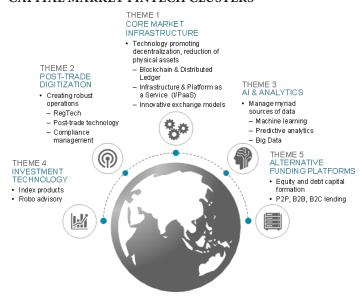
A Formula For Successful Partnerships

Incumbents offer expertise, connectivity, infrastructure, scale, and regulatory licensing and know-how. Fintech firms bring innovative business models, deployed through state of the art tools and technology stacks. Not only does the ability of the fintechs to leverage cloud-based technology increase, their go to market speed increases and capital requirements drop, but new APIs allow them to collaborate more easily with both incumbents and clients.

Financial innovators are looking to drive efficiencies and increase proximity with direct and indirect customers across all financial verticals. Fintechs increasingly have the flexibility, customer proximity, and technology understanding necessary to address business challenges across the entire value chain of capital markets. Solutions that address critical points around market infrastructure (including associated software and cloud-deployment solutions), post-trade processes, and access to capital are among the priority clusters where DB1 Ventures will actively source for investment and partnership opportunities.

- Core Market Infrastructure: Creating safer and more transparent access to liquidity; developing efficient and intelligent platforms for trading and clearing; creating/ expanding new asset classes; leveraging new technologies in the cloud and API interactivity in order to seamlessly manage market infrastructure or connectivity as a service.
- Post-Trade Digitization: Automating the heavily manual processes that still exist within the compliance, regulatory, collateral management, and securities lending; increasing capital efficiencies, clearing and settlement businesses; and launching innovative solutions to manage enterprisewide stress testing, risk attribution, and reporting processes.
- AI & Analytics: Developing solutions that that utilize in-memory computing and machine learning to leverage the massive swell of structured and unstructured data to make predictions, and build analytics at the point of trade. Similarly, innovation is changing the way investment and funding is provided and consumed:
- Investment Technology Digitization: Software and tools that enhance investment decision-making, as well as contribute to accelerate the shift towards passive investments.
- Alternative Funding Platforms: Platforms that allow alternative models for capital formation across the capital structure of both large institutions and SMEs.

CAPITAL MARKET FINTECH CLUSTERS



THEME 1



Core Market Infrastructure

The backbone of the capital markets is the infrastructure that connects asset holders and their intermediaries. This infrastructure is undergoing a transformation to drive greater transparency and efficiency.

The reaction to the financial crisis has been an improved but still fragmented global regulatory environment, with an underlying theme of systemic stability and transparency, which has created a renewed interest in new models for market engagement and access to products. Furthermore, contraction in the banking sector has placed the sourcing of and search for liquidity with a wider group of players.

The retrenchment in traditional dealer balance sheets, tied with endemic cost-cutting programs, is creating a favorable environment for new players with lower regulatory burdens to come in and work towards solving some of the industry's most difficult problems. For instance, Oliver Wyman estimates that the unsecured repo market shrunk 50% between 2010 and 2015, triggering bank and infrastructure player investment in blockchain startups working to create new models for repo liquidity.

The traditional broker-dealer and client relationship has been turned upside down in the post-crisis world. Strict requirements for capital and risk weighted assets (RWAs) have continued to drive down bank RoEs, which have recently been below the cost of capital. The implications are new market structures and new models for transferring risk.

While the sell side is smaller today, the buy side has grown dramatically since the crisis. Buy side firms want to access liquidity in the most effective way possible, while maximizing

best execution and minimizing capital costs. The largest asset managers want alternative models for execution and clearing that obviate the traditional reliance on broker-dealers.

Broker-dealer revenue has decreased with a CAGR of -2.4% since before the financial crisis, while the buy side has grown assets from US\$50 trillion to US\$80 trillion in 2015, and grown revenue with CAGR of +4.3%.

Market participants continue to demand more electronic trading across asset classes. Celent has seen the adoption of electronic trading move with increasing rapidity as more and more asset classes become available through virtualized trading environments. The global fragmentation of liquidity in equity, FX, fixed income, energy, and commodities across both cash and derivatives increases demand for concentration of disparate market centers (highlighting the benefits of potential exchange consolidations). Clients in these markets want tools and services to aggregate liquidity from all available sources as well as flexible market structure models in order to ensure best execution. Clients also want greater access to data for analysis as well as speed of connectivity to each new, innovative trading venue that has the potential to lower total cost of ownership.

The traditional broker-dealer and client relationship has been turned upside down in the post-crisis world. Strict requirements for capital and risk weighted assets have continued to drive down investment banks' and brokers' returns, forcing a reevaluation of their methodologies for engaging with counterparties and clients. The implications are new market structures and new models for transferring risk.

Electronic trading venues are focusing their resources on market microstructure and product innovation. Reduction of TCO and the need for speed are fostering outsourcing of operations and infrastructure in order to allow focusing on core competency. Connecting clients to liquidity and other venues is driving the need for connection in the fastest and cheapest fashion available.

The Role of Distributed Ledger Technology In Less Complex And More Secure Financial Markets

One topic that is currently being given a great deal of attention is blockchain or distributed ledger technology (DLT). In the current discussion, blockchain is treated as one of the most disruptive technologies available at present and in the near future. It is marketed as a technology that would be able to simplify the value chains around trading, payment, and market infrastructures in general. Due to its decentralized character, blockchain enables direct peer-to-peer interactions and thus removes complexity of value chains through disintermediation of existing players.

What is Blockchain?

The short answer: It is the technology behind Bitcoin. This answer, however, is too superficial. While Bitcoin is the grandfather of blockchain and certainly the most prominent example of a blockchain application, the technology has emerged to be much broader. Blockchain is a network of distributed databases where the complete content of the database is replicated across the whole network. The consistency of the updates is ensured through

consensus algorithms that not only prevent faults in replication through technical malfunction, but also prevent malicious attacks from users of the network and outside intruders. Secure copies of the data are replicated across network nodes and ensured through cryptography. Depending on the design of the blockchain, transactions are signed cryptographically using state-of-the art public/private key encryption. These digital signatures prevent fraud and thus allow the distribution of a shared encrypted truth. Technically blockchain is a write-once database. This feature plus the distributed character assures that data stored in a blockchain cannot be forged, altered, censored, or deleted without the other participants noticing. As with traditional databases, blockchain allows for the possibility to embed logic in the database — this feature is typically called smart contracts.

Proof of concepts and/or prototypes have been reported for use cases around post-trading: i. e., settlement systems and payments (e. g., cross-border payments, trading and handling of less liquid financial instruments such as single name CDS, issuance of private securities).

Currently, the barriers in adoption of blockchain technology fall broadly under two categories: a) technology and b) regulation,

- a) The technology is not yet mature enough to replace current core production systems of financial services firms or market infrastructure providers. The technology looks promising but it is faced with constraints such as a lack of scalability and the potential for conflict between transparency and the confidentiality of information.
- b) The regulation of blockchain technology is at the moment unclear, but it will be important to ensure stability and integrity. Regulators are currently evaluating this new technology.

Despite these barriers, capital flows into blockchain technologies surged in the last two years with nearly a billion dollars allocated directly into blockchain infrastructure technology, with the lion's share coming from strategic investors and CVCs. Financial market infrastructure organizations are leading the investment into DLT firms to create new underlying infrastructures and market models for the creation, issuance, and distribution of private securities, democratizing both processes and access.

The Key Components Of A Distributed Ledger And The Implications

The potential implications of DLT on core market infrastructure are far-reaching for the capital markets, offering a path to a more efficient market infrastructure. Changing models in technologies directly impact the capital market value chain, changing the nature of issuance, and changing the exchange's role in price discovery, creating a network of firms, accessing liquidity, diminishing frictional costs by mitigating capital usage, and speeding settlement. There have been numerous use cases reported and proofs of concept (POCs) across the spectrum of the capital markets, and the reasons make sense. Blockchain, with its built-in tracking and tracing of data, is a natural solution to many of the challenges that capital market firms are faced

with on a daily basis. The numerous POCs across securities processing, issuance, and value transfer are keying in on major pain points as well as envisioning a rearchitected capital markets. Managing identify on an immutable blockchain is an area of concentrated effort as the industry grapples with cybersecurity and KYC.

Consistent with the increased focus on DLT, innovative IT stacks that utilize cloud-based technology and API connectivity into incumbents are increasingly driving the development of more agile software solutions for market infrastructure and banking. However, data security and encryption, which are defining imperatives for new technology solutions within financial services, are critical and without them fintech firms will most likely fail to meet the rigorous industry requirements.



THEME 2

Post Trade Digitization

Post-trade operations need to be optimized to maximize capital efficiency and mitigate operational risk.

The systems and environment supporting European post-trade operations are highly fragmented, but both regulators and financial players are starting to mobilize towards the achievement of centralized infrastructures and solutions for the management of post-trade workflows. As an example, T2S is revolutionizing the European post-trade landscape by creating a single settlement environment that should bring domestic market efficiency to the international securities settlement domain. The vision is to build a borderless pan-European infrastructure for real-time securities settlement in central bank money.

BLOCKCHAIN - THE FIVE KEY PARTS Underlying assets are uniquely identified Tokenisation Form a database with ownership rights assigned of assets/ contracts Disruption: Custodians and banking · Creates a universal record of ownership and transactions Universal Updated in realtime with automatic reconciliation ledger Disruption: Removes reconciliations from finance Automatic settlement of financial obligations between Self-enforcing counterparties Convert terms of a transaction into "financial code contracts Disruption: Removes financial intermediaries in Cryptographically enforced database Cryptography Decentralized nature of the database maintains and update by consensus Disruption: No central point of failure Participants mutually agree updates to the database All work off a local copy without connectivity to a central source

enhances P2P

Disruption: Removes multiple reconciliations and

Initiatives like T2S were conceived to delocalize and increase process efficiency, but there is still a long way to go for a part of the industry that traditionally underinvested in technological upgrades. Firms relying on manual processes are finding themselves increasingly open to solutions to optimize and automate post-trade processes that were previously deemed as too sensitive to operational risk arising from change. Today financial market infrastructure providers are focused on solving problems for clients by delivering, for example, solutions to optimize the use of collateral and by delivering capital efficiencies to clients. Funding and financing is another area where the market can continue to be supported with new solutions.

Change accelerates in a world where information and capital travel fast. Risk management, compliance, and front office employees require market intelligence and information tools to be able to detect, track, and monitor market developments, therefore, Celent expects global risk management and risk-related regulatory compliance technology spending to hit \$72 billion in 2019, a 10.1% CAGR.

In recent analysis Celent found that 80% of OTC derivative reconciliation was still manual: phone- and Excel based.

As transactional value chains begin to be redesigned and digitized, firms will be forced to execute similar transformations for risk, regulatory, and compliance processes, especially those that are directly linked with transactional workflows.

Some of the challenges that innovators are addressing are: non-standardized data such as company reports, PDFs, emails, and a variety of regulatory data formats; silos that diminish effectiveness such as disparate and fragmented internal systems, as is the case with the multitude of internal systems from internal trading systems, across asset classes, as well as myriad internal finance and accounting systems; and complexities in data interchange, as evident in the interaction between counterparties, CCPs, and regulators.

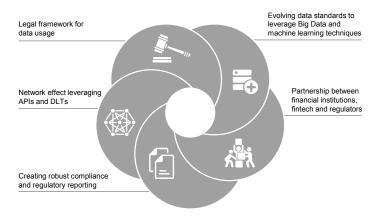
RegTech As A Way To Monetize Regulatory Pressures

Regulators have emphasized better and more transparent reporting. From data management tools to clean and parse internal data, to software as a service solutions that use the latest visualization technologies, fintech is critical in helping firms and institutional investors create the necessary reports for compliance, risk, and regulatory purposes.

The Evolution Of The Regulatory Landscape and Demands for Reporting

Firms are looking to Big Data, AI, and advanced analytics to process and prepare robust informational reports.

The global regulatory environment is providing two unique opportunities for RegTech innovators. On the one hand, providing cheaper and more effective regulatory compliance; on the other, providing firms with an opportunity to make regulatory change an opportunity.



Regulatory Technology (RegTech) is a key growth area, with innovative technology and software applied to assist in intelligently managing the regulatory and compliance processes. Market participants are partnering and engaging with regulators via new compliance architectures that highlight a partner-based relationship with custodians, exchanges, and ARMs. For example, the creation of a nodal point on a blockchain to provide real-time and direct access of trade data to regulatory bodies; or, the creation of predictive tools to analyze structured and unstructured data, short interest, regulatory news flow, social media, and market abuse data, will help to create an environment of regulatory partnership.

RegTech is an opportunity for incumbents to improve their operational efficiency, reduce systemic risk, and provide additional revenue-generating opportunities. RegTech is a key growth area, with innovative technology and software applied to assist in intelligently managing the regulatory and compliance processes. Market participants are partnering and engaging with regulators via new compliance architectures that highlight a partner-based relationship with custodians, exchanges, and regulators. For example, the creation of a nodal point on a blockchain to provide real-time and direct access of trade data to regulatory bodies; or, the creation of predictive tools to analyze structured and unstructured data, short interest, regulatory news flow, social media, and market abuse data will help to create an environment of regulatory partnership.



THEME 3

Artificial Intelligence And Analytics

Processing data to glean intelligence is the defining activity of our age. Firms that can build the analytical architecture to answer today's questions with the embedded flexibility and tools to answer tomorrow's questions will be the leaders of their space.

The explosion of data in capital markets has continued. The data set has also morphed to include not only the traditional pricing data, but semistructured and unstructured data, such as social media, news, and videos. The multifaceted types of data that can now be leveraged present many opportunities, but at the cost of complexities in data curation, distribution, normalization, processing, and storage.

Big Data tools and analytics have gone a long way to providing solutions to the preparation and interpretation of data. The accuracy and speed with which market players can accomplish this is more than ever a clear competitive edge. The savviest market participants are those who can leverage the broadest and deepest data sets for the most complete decision-making. Buy side and sell side firms are looking for more detailed analytics, in real time, on market microstructure, broker/client engagement, and statistically based predictive analytics.

Concurrently, the computing power and advanced statistical modelling advancements have made artificial intelligence (AI) a nascent reality across the financial world. Much of the funding for capital markets AI solutions has been deployed at firms with proprietary IP focused on finding patterns and addressing complex problems that traditionally required vast human capacity to solve. CB Insights estimates that between 2010 and 2015 nearly US\$1 billion has been invested into machine learning, cognitive computing, deep learning, predictive APIs, and natural language processing.

Al in the capital market is moving beyond rules-based algos into a generation of bots and machine learning tools that learn to recognize and react to patterns within the data. This might be predictive analytics in the search for alpha, or pattern recognition to mitigate false positives in AML or KYC.

Simultaneously, better text mining tools, rapid increases in inmemory analytics, and the rise of predictive models based on statistical, neural, and other algorithms, are coming of age to provide a new trove of information. Machine learning will be central in driving the industry towards a shift from post-trade and history-based analytics to pre-trade predictive analytics.

While much of the talk has been centered on predictive analytics at the front office, Big Data technologies are having an impact in driving efficiencies in post-trade activities like reporting, compliance, and risk management.

Tools such as Natural Language Generation (NLG) that write research or business reports, for example, could start to make subjective or creative recommendations instead of just writing text based on structured and unstructured data analysis. On the operational side, RegTech firms are utilizing huge data sets for recognizing risk patterns, predictive compliance, predictive risk, and detecting anomalies.

Artificial intelligence and advanced analytics will impact capital markets, providing essential tools to mine data across the value chain. Based on recent conversations with capital market CTOs, Celent sees AI and machine learning mentioned as the number one technology on their radar screen.

At its core, a financial market infrastructure organization is also a data company. New methods of data delivery and tools for insight and prediction will serve issuing companies, trading firms, clearing houses, and central depositories to make better decisions around capital allocation and risk. Better data insights will provide investors with a next generation of index products, ETFs, and other innovative trading and investment products. Big Data has given us a means of processing new data sets and artificial intelligence is giving us the tools to predict and monetize the insights.



THEME 4

Investment Technology Digitization

Investment technology firms are offering investment managers of all sizes tools for monitoring markets and allowing better decisions based on robust data analysis.

Asset managers and their clients want real intelligence and insight around their investment and the sources of its performance. Whether it is quantitative investment decision tools or passive investment products that mirror active management approaches, a next wave of innovation is seeking to change the traditional asset and wealth management businesses. Demand, performance, and regulation continue to drive assets into indexed and passive products. Passive index-based asset managers are now among the largest in the world. Passive investing is on its way to represent a third of global assets under management in the next four years. New products like smart beta are blurring the traditional lines between passive and active, and look to accelerate the shift in how assets are managed.

In the past two decades, passive index products under management have risen from \$55 billion to over \$4 trillion: a twenty year CAGR of almost 24%.

Investment technology is changing the dynamics of the asset management business, as investment products like ETFs expand both globally and into more innovative structures This creates more demand for tools that optimize asset allocation, quantbased investment, and more direct engagement with liquidity by ETF creators. It also allows producers of market data, like exchanges, to create new IP and products aside from traditional benchmarks and indices. The shift towards a technology-driven means of investing has created a situation where brokerages have moved upmarket. RIAs are expected to do the same or be forced to find some sort of accommodation with the automated investment advisors. Large incumbents such as broker custodians, meanwhile, are leveraging economies of scale to roll out low-cost or even zero-cost portfolio management platforms or partner with robo advisors. Bank brokers, are already working with or building scalable, low-cost platforms to address the needs of their less affluent clientele.

On the institutional side, investment technology has gained relevance as we continue to shift towards automation in asset allocation and rebalancing, as well as new deployment mechanisms for the allocation of capital in alternative investments.

On the retail side, the shift of client preferences towards cloud-based user-friendly solutions is fueling the rise of the so-called robo advisory investment platforms. This has an impact upstream as issuers and distributors focus on products that can easily be scaled on platforms such as robo advisory.

Automated investment management is often defined as portfolio construction by algorithm. This definition, while eye-catching,

focuses on execution at the expense of a broader and ultimately more significant transformation: the automation of front end business processes (including rebalancing, monitoring, performance measurement, and reporting) that formerly required human intervention.

While the dawn of active management could have an impact on trading volumes for exchanges, the rise of passive investments generates monetization opportunities for firms with the technology infrastructure and data necessary for the construction of innovative indices, as well as the provision of investment decision tools.



THEME 5

Alternative Funding Platforms

Alternative funding platforms and peer-to-peer (P2P) business models are reshaping traditional relationships by filling some of the funding gaps created after the financial crisis of the last decade. Both from the perspective of a retail client or small business facing challenges to raise working capital, as well as that of an institution willing to syndicate risks or an investor looking forward to allocate capital in illiquid assets, the evolution of crowdsourced loans and investments has opened a new myriad of possibilities.

What started with a network for individuals getting car loans from an online loan portal and making equity investments via a crowdfunding site is increasingly institutionalizing. A new ecosystem for direct issuance of private shares, access to debt financing, and FX trading is emerging.

Alternative funding platforms that provide capital and liquidity for corporates that traditionally have only relied on banking relationships, have put significant pressure on financial institutions to adapt their business models and gain proximity to the customer. Now lenders and borrowers are able to connect directly through online platforms bypassing all types of intermediaries that are unable to justify their fees. This space has attracted considerable venture investment, garnering over 40% of VC capital in 2015, fueled by the multi-trillion size of the addressable markets, the acceptance by millennials of the P2P model, and some of the largest bank/fintech partnerships. Recent developments centered on credit policies and KYC-related topics are, however, also leading to an increase of interest from regulators around the world on what traditionally have been lightly regulated business models.

In Europe, it has specially been the case that consumers and SMEs have traditionally relied solely on banks for financing. Alternative funding platforms are permeating through the ecosystem, though they are still in their early days, to create a lasting and viable business model for consumers and small and midsize enterprises (SMEs) looking for financing, as well as for investors looking for exposure to higher yielding opportunities.

The securitization market in Europe has been slowly recovering. New models for alternative online platforms will create an opportunity for established incumbents to partner with fintech firms to create a new market for securitized products.

To improve capital markets systems, European governments have supported the use of alternative financing methods to stimulate and direct investment to their people and businesses. In tandem, private enterprise has taken it upon itself to develop the mechanisms capable of connecting a diversity of investors/lenders and borrowers with a wide range of financing needs. Through these combined efforts, crowdfunding has emerged as a viable form of alternative financing for many startups and individual investors. Nonetheless, as the space becomes increasingly institutional, it is increasingly capturing the eye of regulators in the US and Europe. A merger of alternative funding platforms with firms with strong regulatory relations looks to be the future.

There is a movement globally today by exchanges to ease access to private capital by bringing together capital providers, with new alternative funding technology to create a new network for the underserved SME.

There is nothing precluding large market infrastructure providers from leveraging their market operation expertise in financial and large corporate domains, in order to act as the point of encounter between idle capital in hands of private investors and cashrich corporations, and the need for growth capital from small businesses across the world. This is a trend for financial market infrastructure organizations to capitalize on for many years, providing new solutions to the market in the realm of funding and financing.

Conclusion

Fintech disruption will continue across the financial market value chain. In 2003 less than 1% of global investment capital was in fintech, while in 2015 it made up over 8% of the capital pool. Market participants will react in a variety of ways to create a new vision for the capital markets of tomorrow. The forces of regulation, market structure change, and repositioning of capital market participants will continue for the next decade.

Trends in digitization will accelerate, and the challenge for established technology firms and market operators will be to find the correct means of collaborating with new business models and innovative technologies. Concurrently, partnerships are growing and the fintechs are attracting more and more talent from the broker-dealer and investment banking world to work to create new models for the next wave of innovation.

The financial market infrastructure provider of tomorrow will have leveraged its leadership in regulation, market structure, trading, clearing, and settlement to guide startup fintech firms in the journey towards creating an effective and safe capital market for the twenty-first century and beyond.

Market participants need to continually evolve and innovate their business models.

Fintechs can help incumbents to transition to new business models and access additional growth pockets.

Author's Bio



Brad J. Bailey

Brad J. Bailey is a Research Director with Celent's Securities and Investments practice, based in the firm's New York office. He is an expert in electronic trading and market structure across asset classes and is a recognized thought leader in emerging front office technology and capital markets fintech.

Brad's research focuses on the evolution of market structure, trading, data analytics, and innovations in trading technology architecture and deployment. His research looks at legacy trading architecture and how firm's best incorporate alternative business and digital models. He has published research on FX, fixed income, cross-asset trading, DLT in the capital markets, exchange technology, and cloud models for deploying trading and data infrastructure. His recent consulting work involves advising clients on key capital market trends, trading platforms in listed and OTC markets, and alternative models for interacting with fragmenting liquidity. He has also advised and performed due diligence for venture and private equity investors.

An authority on capital market fintech, Brad has been widely quoted in the press, including the Wall Street Journal, American Banker, Financial Times, Institutional Investor, Forbes, USA Today, and the New York Post as well as appearing on Bloomberg TV, BBC News, Sirius Radio, and NPR. He is also a frequent speaker at industry conferences and client gatherings globally.

Prior to joining Celent, Brad spent over 20 years in the capital markets in trading, technology systems, product, market structure, strategy, analysis, and consulting at investment banks and broker dealers that include KCG Holdings, Aite Group, RBC Carlin, Citigroup and ICAP. He also served on the boards of markets technology start-ups and the Equiduct exchange based in Brussels. He began his career as a software engineer.

Brad holds an MSc from University of Colorado in Boulder, and a BS in mechanical & aerospace engineering from Rutgers University. Outside of work, he has taught skiing to Special Olympic Athletes and sailed across the Atlantic Ocean on a 13 meter ketch.