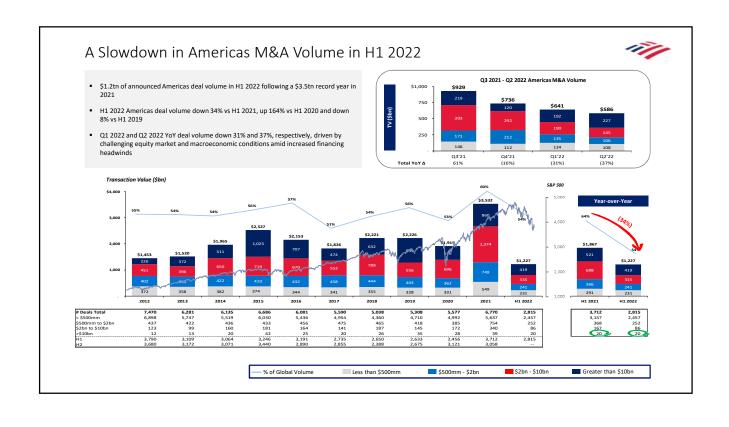




Despite the Market Challenges, the Fundamental Drivers for M&A Remain Intact ■ Limited organic opportunities – many need to attain targeted growth through The amount and diversity of M&A capital is unprecedented, although acquisition acquisition financing faces higher hurdles with increasing rates ■ Further acceleration of technology investment and digital transformation to drive innovation – sought by tech and non-tech companies alike ■ Strategic plans supported by consolidation, TAM expansion and platform buildout via acquisition of new capabilities on in Trust ■ Re-alignment of strategic focus through separation of non-core assets and doubling down on new initiatives ■ Building resilience against weaknesses exposed by COVID ■ Digitization of everything Enablement of hybrid, remote and agile work Automation enabled by Al, ML, big data Software continuing to displace hardware, services, labor Growing complexity of cyber security 's 7tn in BS Cash for S&R 150 ■ Demand for underlying infrastructure – fiber, connectivity, data centers Source: Dealogic, Prequin, FRED, SWF 2022 Annual Report



IPO Targets Pivoted to M&A With More Activity Expected



Challenging IPO Market Leading Many to Push Launch...

Investors taking a more selective approach to IPOs with companies turning to M&A and private capital instead

- After record IPO activity in 2021, H1 2022 US IPO market volumes declined 91% YoY
- US IPO volume totaled \$771mm in June the slowest month since February 2017
- Though the IPO window may open sometime in H2, it is expected that more companies will continue to look to M&A as an exit given the state of the equity markets and the rate at which public valuations have decreased

...And Turn to M&A Instead



EQT Agreed to Acquire BPEA for €6.8bn (March 2022)

"Baring Private Equity Asia (BPEA)...was considering an IPO...BPEA's bosses subsequently reached out to EQT for some advice on how to go public.

"But after a short period of time, we said: 'Haven't you considered other routes as well?'"



KKR Agreed to Acquire a Majority Stake in Refresco (February 2022)

"PAI Partners is considering options for Refresco, including a possible initial public offering that could value the bottling business at obout \$6 billion, according to people familiar with the matter. The French buyout firm has been holding preliminary discussions with potential advisers as it studies a U.S. listing of Refresco"



Berkshire Partners and Warburg Pincus to Partner for an Investment in Ensemble Health Partners (March 2022)

"Golden Gate Capital is exploring a potential sale of its controlling stake in Ensemble Health Partners after plans to take the health information technology company public late last year were postponed, according to people familiar with the matter."

Source: Dealogic as of June 30, 2022

Buyers Have Changed Their Behavior in Response to Market Conditions...



Strategi

■ The bar is higher

- Strategic rationale and valuation need to be highly compelling buyers are being selective on when to play vs. sit out
- Market uncertainty reduces the margin for error
- Strength of process being tested
 - Competitive landscape
 - Flexibility to timeline
 - Withholding/delaying submission of bids to gauge reaction
- Fear of overpaying
 - Don't want to "catch a falling knife"
- Internal Priorities
 - Deferring inorganic opportunities to focus on internal issues Integrations of recent acquisitions, restructuring, re-aligning strategy, contain expenses, etc.
- Re-pricing deals are becoming frequent as fundamentals deteriorate during the process

Sponso

- Still actively looking to deploy funds
 - \$3.5tr of dry powder in search for attractive assets
 - Actively participating in auctions and providing quick feedback
- But progressively risk-off
 - Lazer focus on ability to underwrite the EBITDA, visibility of financials and estimating the additional capital needed to support the business through the downturn
 - Rising cost of capital is lowering returns, reducing margin for error
- <u>Increasingly selective</u>. Highly prefer situations where they have:
 - Done substantial work in the space
 - A related current portfolio investment, turning the sponsor into a quasistrategic with synergy potential
- Re-pricing deals are becoming frequent as fundamentals deteriorate during the process

What's Working vs. Not Working In The Transitory Phase



What's Working

- ✓ Processes catalyzed by inbound interest from well-capitalized strategics
- Unique assets benefitting from a flight to quality (growth, margin and cash flow visibility) and through-cycle resilience
- ✓ Quantifiable hard synergies
- ✓ Bespoke reasons (not related to distress) for selling now vs later
- Price risk within narrow range of outcomes
- Rational price expectations by both buyers and sellers
- Willingness to explore creative structured solutions in anticipation of further potential headwinds – earnouts, minority investments, continuation funds, etc.
- Limited reliance on external financing / significant near-term refinancing

What's Not Working

- Sellers not willing to temper price expectations
- Inability for buyers to adequately diligence and validate financials in order to come to view on valuation
- Inflection growth propositions ("hockey stick projections") with limited historical forecast evidence
- Reliance on significant 3rd party financing
- Regulatory complexity leading to longer delays between announcement and completion

H2 2022 M&A Outlook



Expect M&A activity to rebound once macroeconomic uncertainty and market volatility subside, driven by imperative to consummate strategically important opportunities and sustained appetite to deploy abundant dry powder



Key Drivers of Continued M&A Activity

- Broader equity market correction has moderated valuation levels
- "IPO pipeline becomes the M&A pipeline" as limits on IPO exit option pushes more companies to M&A exit
- Abundance of capital strategics and private investors remain incredibly wellcapitalized
- Strategics are driven by the need to source true growth opportunities
- Investor sentiment regarding M&A continues to be extremely strong

Potential Headwinds

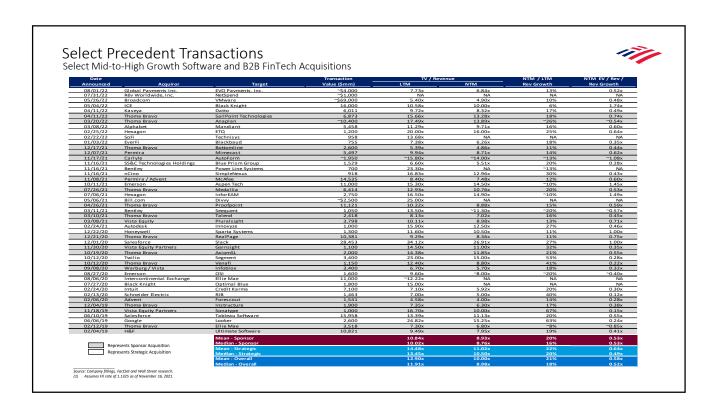


- Reduced LevFin access to finance (non-investment grade) deals
- Potential global recession
- Continued inflationary pressure and rising interest rates
- Geopolitical instability and tensions
- Further volatility and correction in the equity markets
- Ongoing supply chain pressures and labor shortages
- Increased antitrust regulatory scrutiny
- Uncertainty regarding new COVID variants / "New Normal"

Predictions for H2 2022

- Technology M&A opportunities continue to be sought by tech and non-tech acquirors alike
- Transformational M&A and MOE transactions to drive increased equity consideration (i.e., debate around relative value)
- Corporate separation activity to remain robust as strategics look to unlock value and fend off activists
- More structured transactions and other creative solutions to bridge valuation and other structural buyer-seller gaps
- Continued rise of focus on ESG to drive M&A activity
- Expectation of enhanced regulatory focus
- Activism and unsolicited hostile M&A to continue throughout 2022
- A reset of 52-week valuation highs could create vulnerability at attractive growth companies
- Sponsor participation to slow until financing markets stabilize
- SPAC activity will remain subdued with SEC guidelines and sponsors will begin to plan for return of capital







price of

BofA Securities is Acting as Financial

Advisor to Vista

Equity Partners

BofA SECURITIES

~\$8.4bn

BofA Securities is Serving as Financial Advisor to Vista

Transaction Highlights

(NYSE: AVLR) for ~\$8.4bn

 On August 8th, 2022, Avalara, Inc. (NYSE: AVLR) ("AVLR") announced that it has entered into a definitive agreement under which Vista Equity Partners ("Vista") will acquire Avalara in an all-cash transaction valued at \$8.4bn

Case Study: Vista Equity Partners Announces Acquisition of Avalara

- Avalara shareholders will receive \$93.50 in cash per share, representing a 27% premium to Avalara's unaffected stock price (1) and a (2%) discount to Avalara's spot price
- . The acquisition will take Avalara private, allowing the Company to continue its push into the enterprise customer segment, increase investment in its cloud platform, and globalize its customer base
- This transaction represents the 6th \$2bn+ sponsor-backed software take-private transaction in 2022YTD, in addition to Vista & Evergreen / Citrix, Thoma Bravo / Anaplan, Thoma Bravo / SailPoint, Hellman & Friedman & Permira / Zendesk, and Thoma Bravo / Ping

BofA Securities' Involvement

- BofA is acting as financial advisor to Vista Equity Partners in this transaction
- BofA was awarded its role as a result of its longstanding relationship with Vista and Avalara, as well
 as its best-in-class software investment banking franchise and its deep expertise in the tax
 compliance software space
 - This represents BofA's fifth transaction with Avalara, including its IPO in 2018 and subsequent follow-on equity offerings in 2019 and 2020, and a convertible note offering in
 - This represents BofA's 2nd take-private transaction with Vista Equity Partners in 2022YTD, following the ~\$16.5bn Citrix Systems deal announced in January 2022

Avalara Overview

- Avalara provides a cloud-based software platform that delivers a broad array of tax compliance solutions
- Offers an end-to-end suite of solutions that automatically determines taxability, identifies applicable tax rates, accurately calculates taxes, prepares and files returns remits taxes, maintains tax records and manages tax exemption certificates
- As of June 30, 2021, the Company had 20,110 core customers and 1,000+ integration partners (2)
- As of June 30, 2021, the Company had a net revenue retention rate of 113% (3)
- The Company is headquartered in Seattle, Washington

Vista Equity Partners Overview

- Vista is a leading global investment firm with more than \$96 billion in assets under management as of 3/31/2022
- The firm exclusively invests in enterprise software, data and technology-enabled organizations across private equity, permanent capital, credit, and public equity strategies

\$4.0 billion **global**payments has agreed to acquire

BofA SECURITIES

Global Payments has Agreed to Acquire EVO Payments for \$4.0 Billion

Transaction Highlights

- On August 1, 2022, Global Payments, Inc. ("GPN" or the "Company"; NYSE: GPN), a leading payments technology company, announced the signing of a definitive agreement to acquire EVO Payments, Inc. ("EVO", NASDAQ: EVOP) for \$34.00 per share in an all-cash transaction, implying a transaction value of approximately \$4.0 billion
- ("EVD"; NASDAQ: EVDP) for \$34.00 per share in an all-cash transaction, implying transaction value of approximately \$4.0 tillion

 The transaction accelerates Global Payments' technology-enabled, software-driven strategy through further penetration into integrated and business-to-business (828) payments

 Expands GPM's geographic footprint into attractive new geographies such as Poland, Germany, Chile, and upon closing, Greeca, and enhances its scale in existing markets, including the United States, Canada, Mexico, Spain, Ireland and the United Kingdom

 Adds leading accounts reveable automation software capabilities that complement the Company's existing 828 and accounts payable offerings

 Combined adjusted net revenue of \$9.8 billion⁽¹⁾ and adjusted EBITDA of \$4.7 billion⁽¹⁾

 Completing value creation with significant expected run-rate synergies of \$125 million and adjusted earnings per share accretion in the first year post close

 Generates combined customer base of more than 4.5 million merchant locations and over 1,500 financial institutions globally

 SPN expects to finance the acquisition with cash on hand and committed bank facility

 Silver Lake, a global leader in technology investing, has committed \$1.5 billion long-term strategic investment in GPN in the form of convertible senior notes and the Company percents to enter into a call system of the derivative transaction to raise the effective conversion premium of the convertible note a representation is expected to close by Q1 2023, subject to customary closing conditions and approvals

BofA Securities' Involvement

- Bodf Securities is acting as financial advisor to Global Payments and left lead arranger / bookrunner on the bridge and takeout financing

 The transaction highlights Bodf Securities' leading technology franchise

- The transaction highlights BofA Securities' leading technology franchise
 BofA has a longstanding relationship with Global Payments and has helped the Company execute past
 strategic and capital markets transactions

 Lead M&A advisor to GPN and left lead arranger / bookrunner on the bridge and takeout financing in
 the transformative "SSO billion merger of equals with TSV is 12019

 Lead M&A advisor to GPN and provided 100% of committed acquistion financing in the \$4.3bn
 acquistion of Heartland Payment Systems in 2016. Acted as M&A advisor in connection with GPN's
 acquisitions of ACTIVE Network and AdvancedMD in 2017 and 2018, respectively

 Has Ied every financing for GPN since 2009 and currently serves as left lead arranger and admin.
 agent on GPN's existing "\$6bn debt facilities

Global Payments Overview

- Global Payments is a leading payments technology company delivering innovative software and services to customers globally
- Provides solutions and services that enable customers to operate their businesses more efficiently across a variety of channels around the world
- GPN is a member of the S&P 500 with worldwide reach spanning over 170 countries throughout North America, Europe, Asia Pacific and Latin America

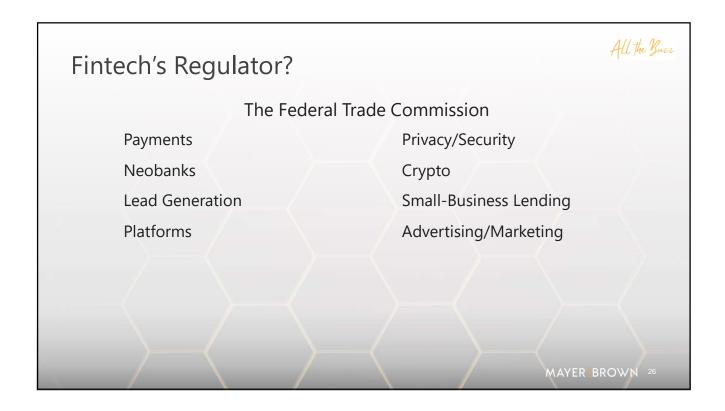
EVO Payments Overview

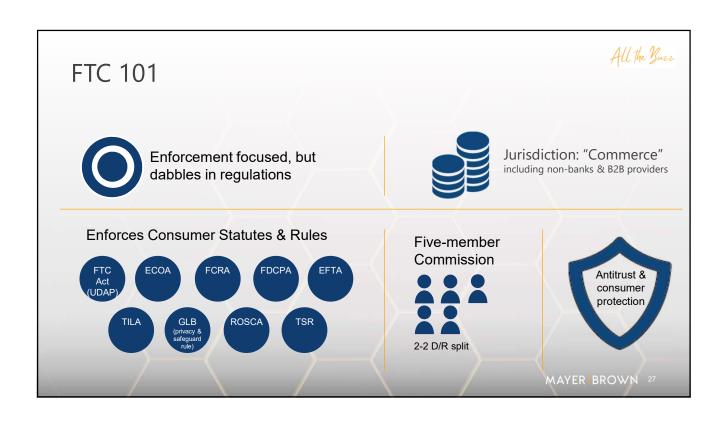
- EVO Payments is a leading payment technology and services provider
- Offers an array of innovative, reliable and secure payment solutions to merchants ranging from small and midsize enterprises to multinational companies across the globe
- Provides competitive solutions as a fully integrated merchant acquirer and payment processor across 50 markets and 150 currencies worldwide

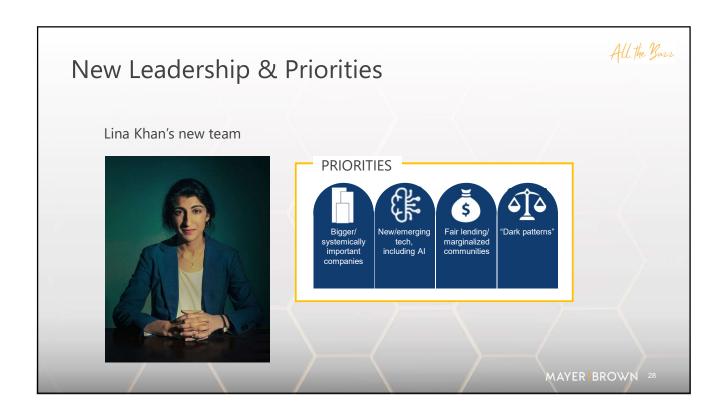
Silver Lake Overview

 Silver Lake is a global technology investment firm, with more than \$88 billion in combined assets under management and committed capital and a team of professionals in North America, Europe and Asia









Key UDAP Principles



- DECEPTION: material representation or omission likely to mislead a reasonable consumer
 - Express representations easier to prosecute
 - Doesn't require large percentage of deceived
- UNFAIRNESS: a practice causing or likely to cause substantial injury, not reasonably avoidable, where the benefits to competition don't outweigh the harms
 - Flexible, but historically hesitant to innovate
 - Standard use cases: data security, unauthorized fees, middle-men who facilitate fraud

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All the Burr

Enforcement – Non-bank "Banks"

- Access to funds
 - Advertise access to funds "24/7" and transfers within 3-5 business days, but often took much longer, with limited customer service
 - 2021 Settlement: Industry ban; ordered to refund all outstanding customer accounts
- Unfair conduct related to lending
 - Defendant was consumer-facing fintech for loans issued by FDIC-insured bank
 - Told consumers they could repay loans via credit/debit card, but rejected those payments
 - Demanded payment after customers paid off loans; unauthorized debits from customer accounts
 - Technical EFTA violation for conditioning loan on EFT
 - 2019 Settlement: \$3.85mm restitution

All the Burr

Enforcement – Lead Generation

- Long-standing focus on lead generation
 - 2015 workshop & 2016 staff paper
- Deceptive Sharing Customer Information
 - Promised to link consumers with lenders, but provided information—including sensitive financial information—to other types of businesses that paid more for leads
 - FTC disregarded "fine print disclaimers" that purported to inform customers
 - 2022 settlement: \$1.5 mm civil penalty, tied to violations of FCRA
- Deceptive Lender Rankings
 - Education lead generation company ranked partner lenders, but did not disclose that rankings were influenced by payments
 - 2020 settlement: \$350,000 penalty

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Enforcement - Payments

- Speed of transfers
 - 2018 settlement with major fintech payments firm
 - Advertised "overnight" external transfer, but transfers often delayed for undisclosed back-office review
 - 20-year admin order; mandatory customer disclosures
- Fraud Controls
 - Multiple Cases alleging that payment processors engaged in "unfair" conduct and provided "substantial assistance" to telemarketing frauds by processing money transfers
 - 2018 Settlement \$125mm; 2022 active litigation ongoing

Enforcement – Platforms



- FTC pursuing cases against platforms in connection with focus on intermediaries and more "systemically important" players
- Key Feature: Attempting to hold platform liable for third-party conduct
- Examples
 - Contractor Platform alleged to misrepresent quality of customer leads
 - Rental-finder app alleged to be purchasing fake reviews
 - But limits: FTC lost key counts against dating app alleging that app failed to protect against fraudulent accounts

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Enforcement – Savings/Earnings Claims



- Requires substantiation or other evidence showing that meaningful portion of consumers can achieve the claim
- Gig-economy company
 - Represented median earnings or hourly wages for drivers, but less than 10% of drivers actually earned the stated amount
 - \$20 mm restitution payment
- Non-bank finance company
 - Represented lifetime savings for refinancing, but the figure only included refinancings that resulted in cheaper loans
 - 20-year administrative supervision

Enforcement – Small Business Consumers



- For FTC, small business are "consumers"
- Exempt from many consumer finance laws, but not from overarching UDAP provisions
- Merchant cash advance sweep
- PPP lending warning letters
 - NOTE: FTC is not the only agency investigating PPP fintech lenders

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Enforcement – Subscription & Free Trials



- ROSCA, Telemarketing Sales Rule:
 - Disclosures required before obtaining billing information and easy cancellation
 - Key: Civil penalties & State AG enforcement
 - 2021 Enforcement Statement
- 2020 Enforcement Action
 - Digital learning platform for children obscured renewal terms & made cancellation difficult
 - \$10mm in restitution

Enforcement - "Dark Patterns"



- New "hot topic" for the FTC
- Vague concept, but encompasses deception adjacent to the product itself, or making relevant disclosures in obscure ways
- Examples from actions
 - "Pre-approved" loans
 - Hidden reviews
 - Subscriptions that are difficult to cancel

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Enforcement - Data Privacy



- Most privacy cases rely on deception theories company shared data inconsistent with representations
 - E.g. Lead Generator cases, many others
- But pushing the envelope
 - Recent action alleging that data broker "unfairly" sold location data service, without any allegation of deception in the data collection
- Watch for Commercial Surveillance Rulemaking
 - ANPR issued August 11; process will take years

Enforcement – Liability for 3rd Party Conduct



- Key: Outsourcing functions does not outsource liability
- Examples
 - Review management conceals negative reviews
 - Data security
 - Unauthorized lending
 - Deceptive lead generators
 - Online advertisers/influencers

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Compliance – First Principles



- Take consumer complaints seriously
- Look at your product through the eyes of your least sophisticated consumer
- Look at agency priorities
 - Chair Khan's focus
 - Conduct that allows for money penalties
- If you see a problem, don't be afraid to fix it



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Christopher Leach is a partner in Mayer Brown's Washington DC office and a member of the Litigation & Dispute Resolution practice. As a former attorney with the US Federal Trade Commission (FTC), his practice focuses on consumer-facing issues, including data privacy, false advertising, marketing practices, and other aspects of customer acquisition. He represents and advises clients in a broad range of industries, including the fintech, financial services, food and beverage, automotive, and telecommunications industries, defending those companies in litigation, before government agencies, and in self-regulatory proceedings such as the National Advertising Division (NAD).

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Sam Orme is Managing Director for Bank of America Merrill Lynch with a focus on Utah and the Rocky Mountain region. In this role, he is focused on helping clients succeed though strategic merger and acquisitions advice and targeted capital raising solutions (including both debt and equity).

Mr. Orme has extensive experience working on a variety of corporate development and investment banking transactions including mergers and acquisitions, public offerings, and private equity transactions. He has been involved in transactions with a broad range of privately held companies as well as public companies, including Cargill, Mitsui, PayPal, E*Trade, Exxon, SunGard, SS&C, Corporate Express, First American, Mosaic, and American Capital.

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