





What our team of Investors, Operators and Innovators have been up to over the last month

We were thrilled to start the year with a Motive Partners delegation attending the **World Economic Forum** in Davos. For most of the year, Davos is known as a town in the Swiss Alps, but for one week in January it is renowned for bringing together political leaders, business leaders and academics from around the world to discuss and collaborate on important social, environmental and economic topics. The World Economic Forum was formed 53 years ago with the belief that 'dialogue and cooperation between business, government and civil society can improve the state of the world.' And true to the economic and social challenges faced across the globe today, this year's theme was "Cooperation in a Fragmented World".

In attendance from Motive Partners was Rob Heyvaert (Founder & Managing Partner), Blythe Masters (Founding Partner) and Sam-Tidswell Norrish

(Managing Director). The team spent time throughout the conference meeting with leaders from financial institutions across the globe, including those responsible for serving large populations of the global economy and some of the most significant buyers of financial technology, diving into areas of inefficiency and opportunity. **Technology disruption in financial services** was a central theme this year and there was discussion and engagement on why collaboration is imperative to unlocking the promise of emerging technologies in addition to creating resilience for financial institutions.

The COVID-19 pandemic and the war in Ukraine have triggered significant transformations. Unless systemic risks are addressed, the promise of a "decade of action" may become a decade of uncertainty and fragility. A particular highlight and privilege for

Motive was Rob Heyvaert's moderation of a thought-leadership session - **Advancing Innovation in Financial Services** – with a diverse group of financial services executives and public sector leaders, exploring strategies to advance healthy innovation while contending with various headwinds. With support from lead contributors, David Schwimmer (CEO of the London Stock Exchange Group), Lieve Mostrey (CEO of Euroclear) and Akash Shah (Chief Growth Officer of BNY Mellon), we talked about why innovation must be pursued both on the front end, where products and services can improve customer access and experience, and on the back end, where operations can be streamlined. While headwinds are prevalent, such as increasing cyber threats, fragmented regulation and geopolitical tensions, there is significant optimism that innovation is just getting started.





Rob Heyvaert
Founder & Managing Partner of Motive Partners



David Schwimmer
CEO of the London Stock Exchange Group



Lieve Mostrey
CEO of Euroclear

In line with the Davos theme which was echoed throughout the week, greater coordination is needed to harmonize regulation across jurisdictions to support responsible innovation. Whilst many regulators are under-resourced, there is a need to work together and exchanging knowledge is an essential part of this. In order for the benefits of innovation to be inclusive, it is necessary for all regions to participate and contribute towards global policy

discussions on innovation. Improved cooperation is needed across sectors and the industry in areas such as developing human capital and supporting fintech-bank partnerships. With complex regulatory burdens on the rise, there was a common sense of agreement that compliance is becoming increasingly complicated and costly. The development of additional tools for streamlining compliance will be essential.

There is no doubt that we face many economic challenges, but we came away from Davos with a strong sense of optimism for the year ahead and with excitement to continue Motive Partners' work as Investors, Operators and Innovators, operating in partnership with all financial services participants to create a more efficient ecosystem globally.

