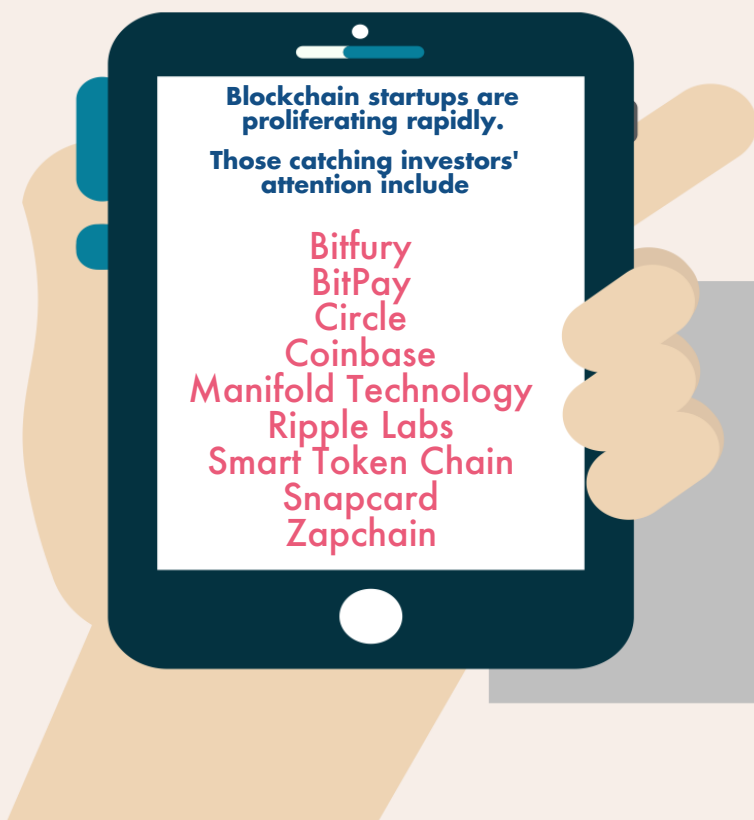


# Blockchain: New market to watch?



Mergermarket is the first to uncover M&A opportunities and trends in the industry



There has been a surge in interest in blockchain technology over the last year.

Blockchain is still a nascent space, however, and probably 12 to 18 months away from triggering M&A activity.

When acquisitions do occur, IBM, Microsoft, and Oracle could be among the technology enterprises leading the way.

"I'll be shocked if all three of them don't buy anything by 2018", said Jim Robinson, managing partner at RRE Ventures.

"Every industry right now is asking about it, which is what makes it so intriguing," said Steve Sapletal, senior director at West Monroe Partners.

Blockchain technology and authentication will be of particular interest to traditional banks, but alternative lending platforms and robo advisors will also hold interest.

"We realized that blockchain can be an entire fabric for the healthcare continuum." - Gem CEO Micah Winkelspecht

## Blockchain-based companies looking to raise capital:

as reported by Mergermarket

[Align Commerce](#)

[Streamdata.io](#)

[Smart Token Chain](#)

Blockchain companies will command high multiples since the sector sits at the intersection of financial services, software technology and network business effect. With high margins and high growth, it will be a good story for the public market. - Chain CEO Adam Ludwin



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