

FINTECH SPECIAL **MARCH - 2018** CIOREVIEW.COM

# 50 Most Promising Fintech Solution Providers - 2018

echnology has propelled the financial sector to great heights. Innovations that dawn upon the space beam the light of transparency and efficiency on end consumers and enterprises alike. Thriving crypto currency networks based on the revolutionary block chain technology could one day redefine financial transaction as we know it. The coming of artificial intelligence has laid new focus in areas such as client contextualization, operational efficiency, and risk mitigation. To make the communication factor better, the evolution of Chatbots has shown promising results that could potentially change the way the FinTech landscape is being perceived. Also, the abominable effect of security threats has led to organizations doubling up their stance on the security front. The year 2018 is expected to see more financial giants releasing apps for better access and communication.

As such, the FinTech arena is filled to the brim with countless solution providers, which makes it a very cumbersome process for a CIO to choose the right solution provider. To make this task easier, CIOReview proves itself to be a beacon in the FinTech industry. Our distinguished selection panel, comprising CEOs, CIOs, CTOs, industry analysts and the editorial board of CIOReview narrowed the final 50 providers that exhibit competence in delivering FinTech solutions.

We present you the CIOReview's 50 Most Promising FinTech Solution Providers - 2018.



#### Company:

Valspresso

#### **Description:**

A financial technology innovator dedicated to helping advisors improve investment outcomes for their clients. grow their assets, while expanding their

profit margins

#### **Key Person:**

Reginald Nosegbe Founder & CEO

#### Website:

valspresso.com



## **Valspresso**

# **Better Investment Outcomes — and Advisor Margins — through Automation**

oday, the benefits of personalized, actively managed portfolios are typically available only to the affluent for one simple reason: 72 percent of U.S. households—referred to as the mass market—don't have enough investable assets to be profitable to advisors.

Valspresso's innovative automated money management platform disrupts this status quo. "We empower advisors and advisor platforms to deliver the same advantages of personalized, actively managed portfolios to mass market clients," President and CEO Reginald Nosegbe says—"with less cost than a hedge or mutual fund."

Regulatory and competitive pressures, coupled with accelerated profit margin compression—margins for broker/dealers have plunged 75 percent over the last decade—are forcing smaller players that typically serve the mass market to either consolidate or go out of business. To succeed, "brokers and advisors must innovate, differentiate and deliver increased value to their clients at low cost," Nosegbe says. "This is precisely what Valspresso's Automated Asset Management Program allows brokers and advisors to do."

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# We are passionate about empowering advisors, using our automated investment technology, to deliver better investment outcomes to the mass market while improving their profit margins

Valspresso's solution, which automates the entire investment process, is designed to reduce investment complexity—while reducing investment risk and improving return for investors. In addition, it delivers a huge benefit for advisors and advisor platforms: bigger operating margins.

What differentiates Valspresso from existing robo solutions? Two things, Nosegbe says: "first, the investment management functions that we automate and second, the value that we deliver."

Consider what most robo-advisors do: they automate the client intake and passive portfolio management functions. Clients get market risk and market returns; advisors get smaller margins.

In contrast, Valspresso's Robo-Money Manager platform automates the stock selection and active portfolio management functions. This drives return

while reducing risk and cost—allowing for differentiation and competitive pricing models that lead to margin expansion for advisors and advisor platforms—a win win for all parties.

Nosegbe underscores that "Valspresso's goal is not to compete with robo-advisors, or traditional advisors. Rather, our goal is to partner with them and add value. Our Mantra is:

Robo-advisor + Robo-Money Manager + Human

Advisor = Better Together."

Nosegbe points to the wave of global asset management firms that are shifting away from assets managed by individuals toward machines. A new report from JPMorgan supports this view, saying that quantitative investing based on software formulas is quickly replacing stock picking by highly compensated analysts and portfolio managers. Further highlighting the trend towards automation is a March 2017 New York Times article reporting that "At Blackrock, Machines Are Rising Over Managers to Pick Stocks."

This trend is accelerating. Ladenburg Thalmann Financial Services, Inc.—a publicly traded, diversified financial services company—is helping to fund ground breaking financial technology so that roughly 4,000 affiliated advisors can derive maximum benefit from the latest innovations—"innovations like what we've developed here at Valspresso," Nosegbe indicated.

Nosegbe says "Valspresso's nearly two decades of research and innovation which resulted in a U.S. patent and a suite of cloud-based automated investment technologies and strategies put us at a competitive advantage and at the leading edge of the industry's shift to automation. Our automated investment platform has been validated via thousands of simulations back to 2004 and via live fund management for more than three years." On top of that, "Valspresso's platform is designed to scale easily, and at minimal incremental cost, to accommodate the effective management of millions of small accounts and billions in assets under management," he adds. CR