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TRAILBLAZERS

NORTHEAST

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What was the genesis of the idea/path that has made you a trailblazer?

Throughout my nearly 20 years of practice I've remained committed to growing and evolving with my clients' needs so that I can help them execute complex, cutting edge M&A transactions. Representing Virgin Galactic in its merger with the special purpose acquisition company (SPAC) Social Capital Hedosophia is a good example. The transaction was one of the earliest deals in the new SPAC wave and created the world's first publicly traded commercial human spaceflight company. I serve a diverse client base across a broad array of industries on high-value M&A and private equity deals, which enables and challenges me to remain nimble in my practice so that I can stay at the forefront of the M&A legal market and ahead of my clients' needs.

What sort of change has resulted from the concept?

Throughout the past two years we saw SPAC mergers explode in popularity as an alternative approach for companies to go public to the traditional IPO. The rise of SPAC transactions gave markets a jolt of energy at a challenging time in the global economy, and Latham's early leadership on market-defining SPAC deals paved the way for broader market acceptance of the product.

What bearing will this have on the future?

The popularity of SPAC mergers – as compared to years past – will likely continue for the foreseeable future, and new M&A trends are constantly evolving and always on the horizon. Regardless of the latest trends and market conditions, Latham's integrated global platform allows me to bring to bear the resources that my clients need to successfully execute cutting edge transactions and achieve their business objectives. In my current role as Global Chair of Latham's M&A Practice I will remain focused on helping the group to continue to grow in line with those same values and objectives.