
**UNITED STATES
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION**
Washington, D.C. 20549

**FORM S-8
REGISTRATION STATEMENT**
*UNDER
THE SECURITIES ACT OF 1933*

Confluent, Inc.

(Exact name of Registrant as specified in its charter)

Delaware
(State or other jurisdiction of
incorporation or organization)

47-1824387
(I.R.S. Employer
Identification No.)

**899 W. Evelyn Avenue
Mountain View, California 94041
(800) 439-3207**
(Address of principal executive offices) (Zip code)

**Confluent, Inc. Amended and Restated 2014 Stock Plan
Confluent, Inc. 2021 Equity Incentive Plan
Confluent, Inc. 2021 Employee Stock Purchase Plan**
(Full titles of the plans)

**Steffan Tomlinson
Chief Financial Officer
Confluent, Inc.
899 W. Evelyn Avenue
Mountain View, California 94041
(800) 439-3207**
(Name, address and telephone number, including area code, of agent for service)

Copies to:

**Jon Avina
Siana Lowrey
Milson Yu
Cooley LLP
3175 Hanover Street
Palo Alto, California 94304
(650) 843-5000**

**Melanie Vinson
Brianna Murray
Confluent, Inc.
899 W. Evelyn Avenue
Mountain View, California 94041
(800) 439-3207**

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is a large accelerated filer, an accelerated filer, a non-accelerated filer, a smaller reporting company, or an emerging growth company. See the definitions of "large accelerated filer," "accelerated filer," "smaller reporting company," and "emerging growth company" in Rule 12b-2 of the Exchange Act.

Large accelerated filer
Non-accelerated filer

Accelerated filer
Smaller reporting company
Emerging growth company

If an emerging growth company, indicate by check mark if the registrant has elected not to use the extended transition period for complying with any new or revised financial accounting standards provided pursuant to Section 7(a)(2)(B) of the Securities Act.

CALCULATION OF REGISTRATION FEE

Title of Securities to be Registered	Amount to be Registered (1)	Proposed Maximum Offering Price per Share	Proposed Maximum Aggregate Offering Price	Amount of Registration Fee
Class A Common Stock, par value \$0.00001 per share				
– 2021 Equity Incentive Plan	37,571,796 (2)(3)	\$36.00 (7)	\$1,352,584,656	\$147,567
– 2021 Employee Stock Purchase Plan	5,162,575 (4)(5)	\$30.60 (8)	\$157,974,795	\$17,236
– Amended and Restated 2014 Stock Plan	77,245,596 (6)	\$5.91 (9)	\$456,521,473	\$49,807
Total	119,979,967		\$1,967,080,924	\$214,610

- (1) Pursuant to Rule 416(a) promulgated under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended (the “**Securities Act**”), this Registration Statement shall also cover any additional shares of Class A common stock that become issuable under the plans set forth herein by reason of any stock dividend, stock split, recapitalization, or other similar transaction effected that results in an increase to the number of outstanding shares of the Registrant’s Class A common stock, as applicable.
- (2) Represents 37,571,796 shares reserved for future issuance pursuant to stock options, restricted stock unit awards (“**RSUs**”) and other awards under the Registrant’s 2021 Equity Incentive Plan (the “**2021 Plan**”). Includes 4,065,283 shares of Class A common stock reserved for issuance pursuant to outstanding RSUs granted under the 2014 Plan. To the extent that any stock options or RSUs outstanding under the Registrant’s Amended and Restated 2014 Stock Plan (the “**2014 Plan**”), including 4,065,283 RSUs outstanding under the 2014 Plan that are included in the figure in the table above, expire, terminate prior to exercise or settlement, are not issued because the award is settled in cash, are forfeited because of the failure to vest, or are reacquired or withheld (or not issued) to satisfy a tax withholding obligation or the purchase or exercise price, if any, the shares of Class B common stock reserved for issuance pursuant to such awards will become available for issuance as shares of Class A common stock under the 2021 Plan. See footnote 6 below.
- (3) The number of shares reserved for issuance under the 2021 Plan will automatically increase on January 1st each year, starting on January 1, 2022 through January 1, 2031, in an amount equal to (i) 5% of the total number of shares of Class A and Class B common stock outstanding on December 31st of the fiscal year before the date of each automatic increase, or (ii) a lesser number of shares determined by the Registrant’s board of directors prior to the applicable January 1st.
- (4) Represents 5,162,575 shares of Class A common stock reserved for future issuance under the Registrant’s 2021 Employee Stock Purchase Plan (the “**2021 ESPP**”).
- (5) The number of shares reserved for issuance under the 2021 ESPP will automatically increase on January 1st each year, starting on January 1, 2022 and continuing through and including January 1, 2031, by the lesser of (a) one percent (1%) of the total number of shares of the Registrant’s Class A and Class B common stock outstanding on December 31st of the preceding calendar year, (b) 7,743,863 shares of the Registrant’s Class A common stock, or (c) a lesser number determined by the Registrant’s board of directors prior to the applicable January 1st.
- (6) Represents 77,245,596 shares of Class B common stock issuable pursuant to stock options outstanding under the 2014 Plan as of the date of this Registration Statement. To the extent that any such stock options expire, terminate prior to exercise, are not issued because the award is settled in cash, are forfeited because of the failure to vest, or are reacquired or withheld (or not issued) to satisfy a tax withholding obligation or the purchase or exercise price, if any, the shares of Class B common stock reserved for issuance pursuant to such equity awards will become available for issuance as shares of Class A common stock under the 2021 Plan. See footnote 2 above.
- (7) Estimated in accordance with Rule 457(h) solely for the purpose of calculating the registration fee on the basis of the initial public offering price of \$36.00 per share of Class A common stock pursuant to the Registrant’s Registration Statement on Form S-1 (File No. 333-256693) declared effective on June 23, 2021.
- (8) Estimated in accordance with Rule 457(h) solely for the purpose of calculating the registration fee. The offering price per share and the aggregate offering price are based upon \$30.60 which is the initial public offering price per share of Class A common stock pursuant to the Registrant’s Registration Statement on Form S-1 (File No. 333-256693) declared effective on June 23, 2021 multiplied by 85%, which is the percentage of the price per share applicable to purchases under the 2021 ESPP.
- (9) Estimated in accordance with Rule 457(h) solely for the purpose of calculating the registration fee. The offering price per share and the aggregate offering price (\$456,521,473) are based upon \$5.91 per share, which is the weighted-average exercise price for stock options outstanding under the 2014 Plan.

PART I

INFORMATION REQUIRED IN THE SECTION 10(A) PROSPECTUS

The information called for by Part I of Form S-8 is omitted from this Registration Statement in accordance with Rule 428 of the Securities Act and the instructions to Form S-8. In accordance with the rules and regulations of the Commission and the instructions to Form S-8, such documents are not being filed with the Commission either as part of this Registration Statement or as prospectuses or prospectus supplements pursuant to Rule 424.

PART II

ITEM 3. INCORPORATION OF CERTAIN DOCUMENTS BY REFERENCE

The following documents filed by Confluent, Inc. (the “**Registrant**”) with the Securities and Exchange Commission are incorporated by reference into this Registration Statement:

(a) Amendment No. 1 to the Registrant’s Registration Statement on [Form S-1](#) filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on June 16, 2021 (File No. 333-256693), which contains the Registrant’s audited financial statements for the latest fiscal year for which such statements have been filed.

(b) The Registrant’s Prospectus to be filed on or about June 24, 2021 pursuant to Rule 424(b) under the Securities Act, relating to the Registration Statement on Form S-1, as amended (File No. 333-256693).

(c) The description of the Registrant’s Common Stock which is contained in a registration statement on [Form 8-A](#) filed on June 21, 2021 (File No. 001-40526) under the Exchange Act of 1934, as amended (the “**Exchange Act**”), including any amendment or report filed for the purpose of updating such description.

(d) All other reports and documents subsequently filed by the Registrant pursuant to Sections 13(a), 13(c), 14 and 15(d) of the Exchange Act (other than Current Reports furnished under Item 2.02 or Item 7.01 of Form 8-K and exhibits furnished on such form that relate to such items) on or after the date of this Registration Statement and prior to the filing of a post-effective amendment to this Registration Statement which indicates that all securities offered have been sold or which deregisters all securities then remaining unsold, shall be deemed to be incorporated by reference herein and to be a part of this Registration Statement from the date of the filing of such reports and documents. Any statement contained in a document incorporated or deemed to be incorporated by reference herein shall be deemed to be modified or superseded for purposes of this Registration Statement to the extent that a statement contained herein or in any subsequently filed document that also is deemed to be incorporated by reference herein modifies or supersedes such statement. Any such statement so modified or superseded shall not be deemed, except as so modified or superseded, to constitute a part of this Registration Statement.

ITEM 4. DESCRIPTION OF SECURITIES

Not applicable.

ITEM 5. INTERESTS OF NAMES EXPERTS AND COUNSEL

Not applicable.

ITEM 6. INDEMNIFICATION OF DIRECTORS AND OFFICERS

Section 145 of the Delaware General Corporation Law authorizes a court to award, or a corporation’s board of directors to grant, indemnity to directors and officers in terms sufficiently broad to permit such indemnification under certain circumstances for liabilities, including reimbursement for expenses incurred, arising under the Securities Act. The Registrant’s amended and restated certificate of incorporation that will be in effect upon the closing of the initial public offering permits indemnification of its directors, officers, employees, and other agents to the maximum extent permitted by the Delaware General Corporation Law, and the Registrant’s amended and restated bylaws that will be in effect immediately prior to the closing of the initial public offering provide that the Registrant will indemnify its directors and officers and permit the Registrant to indemnify its employees and other agents, in each case to the maximum extent permitted by the Delaware General Corporation Law.

The Registrant has entered into indemnification agreements with its directors and officers, whereby it has agreed to indemnify its directors and officers to the fullest extent permitted by law, including indemnification against expenses and liabilities incurred in legal proceedings to which the director or officer was, or is threatened to be made, a party by reason of the fact that such director or officer is or was a director, officer, employee, or agent of the Registrant, provided that such director or officer acted in good faith and in a manner that the director or officer reasonably believed to be in, or not opposed to, the best interest of the Registrant.

The indemnification provisions in the Registrant's amended and restated certificate of incorporation, amended and restated bylaws, and the indemnification agreements that it has entered into or will enter into with its directors and executive officers may discourage stockholders from bringing a lawsuit against its directors and executive officers for breach of their fiduciary duties. They may also reduce the likelihood of derivative litigation against the Registrant's directors and executive officers, even though an action, if successful, might benefit it and other stockholders. Further, a stockholder's investment may be adversely affected to the extent that the Registrant pays the costs of settlement and damage awards against directors and executive officers as required by these indemnification provisions.

At present, there is no pending litigation or proceeding involving a director or officer of the Registrant regarding which indemnification is sought, nor is the Registrant aware of any threatened litigation that may result in claims for indemnification.

The Registrant maintains insurance policies that indemnify its directors and officers against various liabilities arising under the Securities Act and the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, that might be incurred by any director or officer in his or her capacity as such.

Certain of the Registrant's non-employee directors may, through their relationships with their employers, be insured and/or indemnified against certain liabilities incurred in their capacity as members of the Registrant's board of directors.

ITEM 7. EXEMPTION FROM REGISTRATION CLAIMED

Not applicable.

ITEM 8. EXHIBITS

<u>Exhibit Number</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Incorporated by Reference</u>			<u>Filing Date</u>
		<u>Schedule Form</u>	<u>File Number</u>	<u>Exhibit</u>	
4.1	Amended and Restated Certificate of Incorporation of the Registrant, as currently in effect.	S-1/A	333-256693	3.1	June 16, 2021
4.2	Form of Amended and Restated Certificate of Incorporation of the Registrant, to be in effect upon the closing of the Registrant's initial public offering.	S-1/A	333-256693	3.2	June 16, 2021
4.3	Amended and Restated Bylaws of the Registrant, as currently in effect.	S-1	333-256693	3.3	June 1, 2021
4.4	Form of Amended and Restated Bylaws of the Registrant, to be in effect upon the closing of the Registrant's initial public offering.	S-1/A	333-256693	3.4	June 16, 2021
4.5	Form of Class A Common Stock Certificate.	S-1/A	333-256693	4.1	June 16, 2021
5.1*	Opinion of Cooley LLP.				
23.1*	Consent of Cooley LLP (included in Exhibit 5.1).				
23.2*	Consent of PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP, independent registered public accounting firm.				
24.1*	Power of Attorney (included on the signature page of this Form S-8).				
99.1	Amended and Restated 2014 Stock Plan.	S-1/A	333-256693	10.2	June 16, 2021
99.2	Forms of Option Agreement, Stock Option Grant Notice, Exercise Agreement, and Early Exercise Notice and Restricted Stock Purchase Agreement under the 2014 Stock Plan.	S-1/A	333-256693	10.3	June 16, 2021
99.3	Forms of Restricted Stock Unit Grant Notice and Restricted Stock Unit Award Agreement under the 2014 Stock Plan.	S-1/A	333-256693	10.4	June 16, 2021

99.4	2021 Equity Incentive Plan.	S-1/A	333-256693	10.5	June 16, 2021
99.5	Forms of Notice of Stock Option Grant, Global Stock Option Agreement, and Exercise Notice under the 2021 Equity Incentive Plan.	S-1/A	333-256693	10.6	June 16, 2021
99.6	Form of Restricted Stock Unit Award Agreement under the 2021 Equity Incentive Plan.	S-1/A	333-256693	10.7	June 16, 2021
99.7	2021 Employee Stock Purchase Plan.	S-1/A	333-256693	10.8	June 16, 2021

* Filed herewith.

ITEM 9. UNDERTAKINGS

1. The undersigned registrant hereby undertakes:

(a) To file, during any period in which offers or sales are being made, a post-effective amendment to this registration statement:

(i) To include any prospectus required by Section 10(a)(3) of the Securities Act;

(ii) To reflect in the prospectus any facts or events arising after the effective date of the registration statement (or the most recent post-effective amendment thereof) which, individually or in the aggregate, represent a fundamental change in the information set forth in the registration statement. Notwithstanding the foregoing, any increase or decrease in volume of securities offered (if the total dollar value of securities offered would not exceed that which was registered) and any deviation from the low or high end of the estimated maximum offering range may be reflected in the form of prospectus filed with the Commission pursuant to Rule 424(b) if, in the aggregate, the changes in volume and price represent no more than a 20% change in the maximum aggregate offering price set forth in the "Calculation of Registration Fee" table in the effective registration statement.

(iii) To include any material information with respect to the plan of distribution not previously disclosed in the registration statement or any material change to such information in the registration statement;

Provided, however, that paragraphs (a)(i) and (a)(ii) do not apply if the information required to be included in a post-effective amendment by those paragraphs is contained in reports filed with or furnished to the Commission by the registrant pursuant to Section 13 or Section 15(d) of the Exchange Act that are incorporated by reference in the registration statement.

(b) That, for the purpose of determining any liability under the Securities Act, each such post-effective amendment shall be deemed to be a new registration statement relating to the securities offered herein, and the offering of such securities at that time shall be deemed to be the initial bona fide offering thereof.

(c) To remove from registration by means of a post-effective amendment any of the securities being registered which remain unsold at the termination of the offering.

(d) That, for the purpose of determining liability of the registrant under the Securities Act to any purchaser in the initial distribution of the securities, the undersigned registrant undertakes that in a primary offering of securities of the undersigned registrant pursuant to this registration statement, regardless of the underwriting method used to sell the securities to the purchaser, if the securities are offered or sold to such purchaser by means of any of the following communications, the undersigned registrant will be a seller to the purchaser and will be considered to offer or sell such securities to such purchaser:

(i) Any preliminary prospectus or prospectus of the undersigned registrant relating to the offering required to be filed pursuant to Rule 424;

(ii) Any free writing prospectus relating to the offering prepared by or on behalf of the undersigned registrant or used or referred to by the undersigned registrant;

(iii) The portion of any other free writing prospectus relating to the offering containing material information about the undersigned registrant or its securities provided by or on behalf of the undersigned registrant; and

(iv) Any other communication that is an offer in the offering made by the undersigned registrant to the purchaser.

2. The undersigned registrant hereby undertakes that, for purposes of determining any liability under the Securities Act, each filing of the registrant's annual report pursuant to Section 13(a) or Section 15(d) of the Exchange Act (and, where applicable, each filing of an employee benefit plan's annual report pursuant to Section 15(d) of the Exchange Act) that is incorporated by reference in the Registration Statement shall be deemed to be a new registration statement relating to the securities offered herein, and the offering of such securities at that time shall be deemed to be the initial bona fide offering thereof.

3. Insofar as indemnification for liabilities arising under the Securities Act may be permitted to directors, officers and controlling persons of the registrant pursuant to the foregoing provisions, or otherwise, the registrant has been advised that in the opinion of the Securities and Exchange Commission such indemnification is against public policy as expressed in the Securities Act and is, therefore, unenforceable. In the event that a claim for indemnification against such liabilities (other than the payment by the registrant of expenses incurred or paid by a director, officer or controlling person of the registrant in the successful defense of any action, suit or proceeding) is asserted by such director, officer or controlling person in connection with the securities being registered, the registrant will, unless in the opinion of its counsel the matter has been settled by controlling precedent, submit to a court of appropriate jurisdiction the question whether such indemnification by it is against public policy as expressed in the Securities Act and will be governed by the final adjudication of such issue.

SIGNATURES

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, the Registrant certifies that it has reasonable grounds to believe that it meets all of the requirements for filing on Form S-8 and has duly caused this Registration Statement to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned, thereunto duly authorized, in the City of Mountain View, State of California, on this 24th day of June, 2021.

CONFLUENT, INC.

By: /s/ Edward Jay Kreps

Edward Jay Kreps
Chief Executive Officer

POWER OF ATTORNEY

KNOW ALL PERSONS BY THESE PRESENTS, that each person whose signature appears below constitutes and appoints Edward Jay Kreps, Steffan Tomlinson, and Melanie Vinson, each of them, as his or her true and lawful attorneys-in-fact and agents, each with the full power of substitution, for him or her and in their name, place or stead, in any and all capacities, to sign any and all amendments to this Registration Statement (including post-effective amendments), and to sign any registration statement for the same offering covered by this Registration Statement that is to be effective upon filing pursuant to Rule 462(b) promulgated under the Securities Act, and all post-effective amendments thereto, and to file the same, with all exhibits thereto and other documents in connection therewith, with the Securities and Exchange Commission, granting unto said attorneys-in-fact and agents, and each of them, full power and authority to do and perform each and every act and thing requisite and necessary to be done in connection therewith, as fully to all intents and purposes as he or she might or could do in person, hereby ratifying and confirming all that said attorneys-in-fact and agents or any of them, or his, her or their substitute or substitutes, may lawfully do or cause to be done by virtue hereof.

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Act, this Registration Statement has been signed by the following persons in the capacities and on the dates indicated.

<u>Signature</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Date</u>
<u>/s/ Edward Jay Kreps</u> Edward Jay Kreps	Chief Executive Officer and Director (Principal Executive Officer)	June 24, 2021
<u>/s/ Steffan Tomlinson</u> Steffan Tomlinson	Chief Financial Officer (Principal Financial and Accounting Officer)	June 24, 2021
<u>/s/ Lara Caimi</u> Lara Caimi	Director	June 24, 2021
<u>/s/ Jonathan Chadwick</u> Jonathan Chadwick	Director	June 24, 2021
<u>/s/ Alyssa Henry</u> Alyssa Henry	Director	June 24, 2021
<u>/s/ Matthew Miller</u> Matthew Miller	Director	June 24, 2021
<u>/s/ Neha Narkhede</u> Neha Narkhede	Director	June 24, 2021
<u>/s/ Greg Schott</u> Greg Schott	Director	June 24, 2021
<u>/s/ Eric Vishria</u> Eric Vishria	Director	June 24, 2021
<u>/s/ Mike Volpi</u> Mike Volpi	Director	June 24, 2021



Jon C. Avina
T: +1 650 843 5307
javina@cooley.com

June 24, 2021

Confluent, Inc.
899 W. Evelyn Avenue
Mountain View, California 94041

Ladies and Gentlemen:

We have acted as counsel to Confluent, Inc., a Delaware corporation (the "**Company**"), in connection with the filing of a Registration Statement on Form S-8 (the "**Registration Statement**") with the Securities and Exchange Commission covering the offering of up to 119,979,967 shares (the "**Shares**") of the Company's Class A common stock, par value \$0.00001 per share ("**Class A Common Stock**"), consisting of (a) 77,245,596 shares of Class A Common Stock issuable pursuant to the Company's Amended and Restated 2014 Stock Plan (the "**2014 Plan**"), (b) 37,571,796 shares of Class A Common Stock issuable pursuant to the Company's 2021 Equity Incentive Plan (the "**2021 Plan**"), and (c) 5,162,575 shares of Class A Common Stock issuable pursuant to the Company's 2021 Employee Stock Purchase Plan (together with the 2014 Plan and 2021 Plan, the "**Plans**").

In connection with this opinion, we have examined and relied upon (a) the Registration Statement and related prospectuses, (b) the Company's Amended and Restated Certificate of Incorporation and Amended and Restated Bylaws, each as currently in effect, (c) the forms of the Company's Amended and Restated Certificate of Incorporation and Amended and Restated Bylaws, each of which is to be in effect upon the closing of the Company's initial public offering, in the forms filed as Exhibits 3.2 and 3.4, respectively, to the Company's registration statement (No. 333-256693) on Form S-1, (d) the Plans, and (e) originals or copies certified to our satisfaction of such records, documents, certificates, memoranda and other instruments as in our judgment are necessary or appropriate to enable us to render the opinion expressed below. We have assumed the genuineness of all signatures, the authenticity of all documents submitted to us as originals, the conformity to originals of all documents submitted to us as copies, the accuracy, completeness and authenticity of certificates of public officials and the due authorization, execution and delivery by all persons other than by the Company of all documents where authorization, execution and delivery are prerequisites to the effectiveness thereof. As to certain factual matters, we have relied upon a certificate of an officer of the Company and have not independently verified such matters.

Our opinion is expressed only with respect to the General Corporation Law of the State of Delaware. We express no opinion to the extent that any other laws are applicable to the subject matter hereof and express no opinion and provide no assurance as to compliance with any federal or state securities law, rule or regulation.

On the basis of the foregoing, and in reliance thereon, we are of the opinion that the Shares, when sold and issued in accordance with the Plans, the Registration Statement and related prospectuses, will be validly issued, fully paid, and nonassessable (except as to shares issued pursuant to certain deferred payment arrangements, which will be fully paid and nonassessable when such deferred payments are made in full).

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Confluent, Inc.
June 24, 2021
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We consent to the filing of this opinion as an exhibit to the Registration Statement.

Sincerely,

Cooley LLP

By: */s/ Jon C. Avina*

Jon C. Avina

Cooley LLP 3175 Hanover Street Palo Alto, CA 94304-1130
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CONSENT OF INDEPENDENT REGISTERED PUBLIC ACCOUNTING FIRM

We hereby consent to the incorporation by reference in this Registration Statement on Form S-8 of Confluent, Inc. of our report dated March 23, 2021 relating to the financial statements, which appears in Confluent, Inc.'s Amendment No.1 to the Registration Statement on Form S-1 (No. 333-256693).

/s/ PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP

San Jose, California
June 24, 2021