OSC ONTARIO SECURITIES COMMISSION

Tactical-level disruption in practice: How to leverage intermediaries for fraud interventions

Reporting to the OSC:

- In many cases, the OSC can and will disrupt investment-related scams reported to it by member firms or the public.
- Members can file a report with the OSC's Inquiries and Contact Center by phone at 1-866-827-1295 or email at inquiries@osc.gov.on.ca.
- Provide as much information as possible, including but not limited to:
  - Screenshots (whether yours or a client's)
  - Attribution to specific service providers (e.g. client saw an ad while on YouTube)
  - IP and other log-in details
  - Transaction details
  - Exact domain names or URLs of fraudulent websites
  - Identification of malicious applications
- OSC has a dedicated reporting portal for some platforms.

Contacting service providers directly:

- Service providers are increasingly amenable to proactively intervening to disrupt fraudulent use of their services, sometimes only requiring evidence that a client of theirs breached their **"terms of use"** agreement.
- If your firm is being spoofed by a scammer, your outreach itself can constitute sufficient evidence of fraud.
- Screenshots of the malicious account/activity are helpful.
- Many platforms have reporting portals/links available (see next slide), but a relationship with a platform contact is often more effective.

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Useful resources for scam information gathering

To find the **domain registrar** and **registration details** for a website:
www.whois.com

For resources or assistance on how to engage with a **domain registrar hosting a spoof/fraudulent website**, and who appears **unwilling** to take it down:
https://netbeacon.org

To search for an **ad shown** on a **Google platform** (including YouTube):
https://adstransparency.google.com

To search for an **ad shown** on a **Meta platform** (including Facebook, Instagram and WhatsApp):
www.facebook.com/ads/library

To reference **known/reported scams or possible scams**:

www.iosco.org/i-scan (International)

www.securities-administrators.ca/investor-alerts (Canada)

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Self-serve fraud and abuse reporting portals and resources for select major online platforms

GOOGLE

Gmail:

YouTube:

https://support.google.com/youtube/answer/10684207?hl=en&ref_topic=9387085&sjid=10383650587329427783-NC

META

Facebook:

https://www.facebook.com/help/1380418588640631

Instagram:

https://help.instagram.com/2922067214679225/?helpref=hc_fnav

WhatsApp:

https://faq.whatsapp.com/1142481766359885/?cms_platform=android

LINKEDIN

https://www.linkedin.com/help/linkedin/answer/a1344213/recognize-and-report-spam-inappropriate-and-abusive-content?lang=en

MICROSOFT

https://msrc.microsoft.com/report/

CLOUDFLARE

https://www.cloudflare.com/trust-hub/reporting-abuse/

GODADDY

https://supportcenter.godaddy.com/abusereport

ANYDESK

https://anydesk.com/en/contact-anydesk/send-report