



The following is a list of unlicensed overseas companies, suspected scam websites and phishing scams which have come to the attention of the SFC.

Most of these unlicensed companies either represent themselves as having operations in Hong Kong by using the address of a mail forwarding facility or settle their transactions through a bank account in Hong Kong, when in fact they do not have any actual operations in Hong Kong. Alternatively, they may operate from overseas and contact potential investors in Hong Kong whilst not having been licensed in Hong Kong. While some of them may be boiler room operations, others may merely have failed to comply with licensing requirements.

Investors should exercise extreme caution when dealing with companies that are not licensed in any jurisdiction.

Suspected scam websites may either be scamsters using their websites to offer too-good-to-be-true investment opportunities (e.g. offering pre-IPO stocks of fabricated companies at huge discounts, or funds with guaranteed multiple returns) which do not actually exist, or fraudulent copycat websites which imitate the websites of reputable financial institutions to lure investors to part with their money and/or disclose personal information which the fraudsters may use to swindle investors.

Similar to fraudulent copycats, phishing is a term used to describe scamsters imitating legitimate financial institutions, notably banks, in emails to entice recipients to disclose their credit card/bank account numbers as well as their respective passwords/ Personal Identification Numbers (PINs).

Recently, it has come to the SFC's attention that boiler room activities, scam websites and phishing have become more active. If you wish to find out more about these scams, please refer to the subsections "[Boiler Room Operations](#)", "[Scam Websites](#)" and "[Fraudulent Copycat Websites and Phishing Scams](#)". You can also read the [investor alert lists of overseas regulators](#) in the "[Boiler Room Operations](#)" subsection.

Smith and Henderson

Gives an address of:

Level 21, HSBC Tower
101 Yin Cheng East Road, Pudong
Shanghai, 200120, China

Added on 15 June 2005

Taylor Ferguson

The company claims that it is a New York company.

Name used: Scot Mayfield

Added on 15 June 2005

Wells Fargo (not related to Wells Fargo & Company, USA)

(Claims to represent Wells Fargo Online Banking, and sends emails to certain members of the public about its newly introduced counter fraud program and requesting recipients to use the attached link to complete the confirmation process.)

Added on 15 June 2005

Wilton & Smythe Associates

Gives an address of:

Landstrasser, Hauptstrasse 71
Vienna, Austria 1030

Name used: Blair Van Rosenberg

(The company maintains a website with the domain name:
www.wiltonsmythe.com)

Added on 15 June 2005

Bernard Simpson Consultants

Gives addresses of :

Room 1, Floor 1, Straits Trading Building
2 Lebuhr Pasar Besar
Kuala Lumpur 50050
Malaysia

Level 40, Tower 2,
Petronas Twin Towers
Kuala Lumpur 50088
Malaysia

Plaza Sentral 9th Floor
JI Jenderal Sudirman No 47
Jakarta 12930
Indonesia

Centro Corporativo Internacional
Avenida 6/8, Calle 26
Piso 3, San Jose
Costa Rica

3001 Trade Tower, 159-1 Samsung-Dong
Gangnam-Gu
Seoul 135-729
Korea

Name used: Thomas Harte, Richard Good and Alex Lee

(The company maintains a website with the domain names:
www.bernardsimpson.net and www.bscmail.net. It also has a bank
account in Hungary and appears to target Hong Kong investors.)

Added on 27 November 2003

Last updated on 15 June 2005