

PROTECT YOURSELF AGAINST BOILER ROOM FRAUD

Boiler room fraud is the common term for the ruthless miss-selling of worthless or bogus stocks and shares for the sole purpose of defrauding cash from unwitting investors. The UK is a victim of share-related fraud, with UK Investors collectively losing at least £200 million per year.

Organised and ruthless criminals run 'boiler rooms' with a sales pitch designed to play to an innocent investor's appetite and desire to make a profit.

Imagine if you were contacted with a promise of a sure win, wouldn't you be interested in trying to make more money? However, by participating in such an investment, you are most likely to come away with nothing. You could lose your initial investment and any rights to make a formal complaint or claim compensation. Most boiler room scams are operated from overseas in 'safe' jurisdictions that are immune from UK law.

**IT IS AGAINST THE LAW TO COLD CALL A PERSON TO TRY
TO SELL SHARES OR OTHER INVESTMENTS.
IF YOU HAVEN'T INVITED THE CALL JUST HANG UP.**

It is not just novice investors who are conned into giving away their hard earned money. The vast majority of victims are experienced investors. Before you make any decisions pause and think about what you may be about to invest in.

- Have you receive unsolicited contact from unknown people by email, telephone calls, post?
- Were they highly motivated, professional, knowledgeable and convincing sales people?
- Did they direct you to some very credible looking company websites, indicating their businesses operated from 'safe' environments in the UK, the US or Switzerland etc?
- Were their investment stocks related to emerging and credible markets?
- Was the contact driven pretty much one way? Were they even reluctant to provide contact information?
- At some point, and without ever having met anyone, have you agreed to invest and were you invited to send a cheque or wire transfer money, often but not always, to an overseas office?
- Once you had been sold one investment were you called repeatedly to make further purchases?

**REMEMBER – IF IT LOOKS TOO GOOD TO BE TRUE IT
PROBABLY IS!**

If you have any doubts about making an investment call the FSA Consumer Helpline:

Tel: 0845 606 1234* or Minicom/Textphone: 08457 300 104* (*call rates may vary)

Or visit the FSA website at www.fsa.gov.uk to check if a firm is legitimately registered to manage shares – and not one that is on the company fraud black list.

For more information on Boiler Room Fraud, visit www.cityoflondon.police.uk (search for ARCHWAY).

The work undertaken to combat 'boiler room' fraud is a collaborative effort between the following organisations.