

# Identifying Fraudulent Work-at-Home Scams

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*Recently I got an e-mail message from a naïve young person who was excited about the riches available through part-time work at home posting links to products on the Web. I hope that the approach to spotting fraud will be useful to other potential victims; please feel free to circulate it among your colleagues at work as part of any security-awareness program.*

From:---  
Date: Wednesday, May 23, 2012 15:11  
To: - a bunch of people who don't necessarily know each other -  
Subject: I am my own boss try it out for yourself

How to Get Rich using your PC  
<http://doctoraluisazitzer.com/disclog24.php?jID=7xovx>

\* \* \*

Hi ---,

This is almost certainly fraudulent.

1) Although the link is for < doctoraluisazitzer.com > in fact the link connects to a different Website entirely < corporateincomefromhome.net >. Having an immediate switch of link is inherently deceptive. In addition, the ownership records about doctoraluisazitzer.com available through BETTERWHOIS.COM< <http://betterwhois.com/> > show the following data (spelling mistakes are in the original):

[Querying whois.dattatec.com]  
[whois.dattatec.com]

Datttatec.com - Registration Service Provided By: Dattatec.com  
Contact: +54 341 599000  
Email: dominios@dattatec.com  
Website: <http://www.dattatec.com>

Domain name: doctoraluisazitzer.com  
Creation Date: 2011-06-18  
Expiration Date: 2012-06-23

Status(es):  
OK

Domain Name servers(es):  
ns1.traxhost.com  
ns4.hostmar.com  
ns2.dattaelite.com  
ns3.hostmar.com  
ns22.dattatec.com  
ns21.dattatec.com

Registrant conatct:

Name: Luisa Zitzer  
Company: Luisa Zitzer  
Email: aletitor2@hotmail.com  
Address: a  
AR - a ( zip: - )  
Phone : 54 - 8327920

Admin contact:

Name: Luisa Zitzer  
Company: Luisa Zitzer  
Email: aletitor2@hotmail.com  
Address: a  
AR - a ( zip: - )  
Phone : 54 - 8327920

Billing contact:

Name: Luisa Zitzer  
Company: Luisa Zitzer  
Email: aletitor2@hotmail.com  
Address: a  
AR - a ( zip: - )  
Phone : 54 - 8327920

Tech contact:

Name: Luisa Zitzer  
Company: Luisa Zitzer  
Email: aletitor2@hotmail.com  
Address: a  
AR - a ( zip: - )  
Phone : 54 - 8327920

The country code 54 corresponds to Argentina!

2) Here is the registration information about the domain < corporateincomefromhome.net >: it's RUSSIAN. Russia is one of the main centers for worldwide credit-card fraud. Type "Russian federation credit-card fraud" into the GOOGLE search field (without quotation marks) for more news about the issue than you want to read.

[Querying whois.ukrnames.com]

[whois.ukrnames.com]

Service Provided By: Center of Ukrainian Internet Names

Website: <http://www.ukrnames.com>

Contact: +380.577626123

Domain Name: CORPORATEINCOMEFROMHOME.NET

Creation Date: 23-May-2012

Modification Date: 23-May-2012

Expiration Date: 23-May-2013

Domain servers in listed order:

ns1.okeraafrer.ru

ns2.okeraafrer.ru

ns3.okeraafrer.ru

Registrant:

Olga Golubeva chapoohnet@gmail.com

ul. Pushkina 98 56

Barnaul, 656000

RUSSIAN FEDERATION

+7 495 5467812

Billing Contact:

Olga Golubeva chapoohnet@gmail.com  
ul. Pushkina 98 56  
Barnaul, 656000  
RUSSIAN FEDERATION  
+7.4955467812

Administrative Contact:

Olga Golubeva chapoohnet@gmail.com  
ul. Pushkina 98 56  
Barnaul, 656000  
RUSSIAN FEDERATION  
+7.4955467812

Technical Contact:

Olga Golubeva chapoohnet@gmail.com  
ul. Pushkina 98 56  
Barnaul, 656000  
RUSSIAN FEDERATION

3) The Web page pretends to be a news story from "NEWS DAILY 7." It is not: it's completely fake and has been created by the criminals. It inherently has ZERO credibility. In addition, the stories describe salaries up to \$8,000/month, not the \$10,397 in the headline.

4) Scamadvisor.com reports a ZERO trust rating for the site: see < <http://www.scamadviser.com/is-corporateincomefromhome.net-a-fake-site.html> >

5) The use of a .net top-level domain (TLD) for a commercial page is a warning sign; .net is supposed to be restricted to "organizations involved in networking technologies". See < <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/.net> >. Using that TLD gives the criminals a false veneer of respectability. To use .net for a profit-making organization instantly sets alarm bells ringing.

6) Work-at-home scams are well known to be used by criminals. See Alison Doyle's "Work at Home Scams." < <http://jobsearch.about.com/cs/workathomehelp/a/homescam.htm> >

7) The links to "Home Business Idea" claim to be linking to < <http://corporateincomefromhome.net/business-news-all/go.php> > but they actually go to < <http://thesecurepagee.com/e/HICM4/?misc1=855-230-3394&caid=29002&misc3=200674&caCode=HCML97G&nopop=0&stid=363&cid2=7474> > which is labeled "Home Income Ca\$h Machine" and claims impressively to be advertised on MSNBC, FOX NEWS, ABC, USA TODAY and CNN. However, you can instantly find several complaints about fraud involving this group: type "home income ca\$h machine" (without the quotation marks) into GOOGLE to locate complaints from people who were cheated out of \$100-\$300.

7a) < <http://reviewopedia.com/workathome/home-income-cash-machine-reviews-legit-or-scam/> > reports,

"However, Home Income Cash Machine significantly misrepresents this opportunity when they say you are "paid to post links." You are not paid to post links. You are paid when the link you post results in a sale for that company. Unfortunately, that is very different. Instead of being paid every 4 minutes for the link you post, you would be paid

every time a sale goes through, which unfortunately is not likely to be every 4 minutes."

Also " What You Should Know About Home Income Cash Machine

Home Income Cash Machine is selling a certification program for link posting. However, you do not need to be certified in link posting to work in affiliate marketing. It is an independent business opportunity, available to anyone.

Also, while their sales page says their program costs \$49.95, the reality is that it actually costs \$99.95. You have the option to get a \$50.00 rebate if, when you receive the welcome email, you agree to take a survey. If you do not take the survey, you will not get your rebate.

Finally, they have a very specific and difficult refund policy. While they claim to have a 60 Day Money Back Guarantee, the truth is that to get your refund, you must following their training and use their program for 60 days, exactly.

If, at the end of 60 days, you can prove you used their program the entire time and failed to make back the money you invested in the program, then you have 7 days to request a refund. Additionally, the Home Income Cash Machine website states that were you to request your refund before you have tried the program for 60 days, you would forfeit your ability to qualify for a refund."

7b) < <http://www.scambook.com/report/view/112444/Home-Income-Cash-Machine-False-Advertising-for-134.00-on-05-10-2012> >

"Home Income Cash Machine - False Advertising for \$134.00 on 05/10/2012

I had thought it was a legitimate website to start making money but boy was I wrong. They claim that it is only \$97 to get started, so foolishly, I paid. I then was prompted to pay for other packages. As I continued, I never received my so-called "kit" so I tried contacting the company. Well, their email as well as phone number were both FAKE. I am now trying to deal with my credit card company to settle this dispute to get my money back and out of the hands of those crooks!

Submitted by J on May 10th, 2012"

7c) < <http://www.scambook.com/report/view/112493/Home-Income-Cash-Machine-False-Advertising-for-97.00-on-05-08-2012> >

"Home Income Cash Machine - False Advertising for \$97.00 on 05/08/2012

I too got scammed by what I thought to be a legitimate way to work at home. When I opened the site I was lucky and had good software to catch the viruses before they ruined my computer. It's bad enough to scam people but to ruin a persons computer worth hundreds of dollars is sick!! I also got calls from people saying they were calling to help, but in reality they were trying to gather information to steal your identity. Beware of this scam.

Submitted by Anonymous on May 10th, 2012"

7d) < <http://workathomereviewers.com/home-income-cash-machine-review> >

This Web site has excuses for the fraud attacks and includes " Many people have problems with work at home offers saying that they are

misrepresented and you can't really make the money they are talking about. The fact is there are many people who will make the amount of money advertised it just depends on how much effort they put into it and how well they do the job. Just like anything else in life, the return you see from this program directly reflects how much time you spend working on it and really learning it correctly." However, the BETTERWHOIS.COM service shows that the owners of "WorkatHome Reviewers" have chosen to conceal their identities - not a sound basis for inspiring trust. My guess? The people running home income ca\$h machine own the "review" site as well:

Registration Service Provided By: Namecheap.com  
Contact: support@namecheap.com  
Visit: <http://namecheap.com>

Domain name: workathomereviewers.com

Registrant Contact:

WhoisGuard  
WhoisGuard Protected ()

Fax:  
11400 W. Olympic Blvd. Suite 200  
Los Angeles, CA 90064  
US

Administrative Contact:

WhoisGuard  
WhoisGuard Protected  
(b329987c37ed4db3bbbd4719df605de4.protect@whoisguard.com)  
+1.6613102107  
Fax: +1.6613102107  
11400 W. Olympic Blvd. Suite 200  
Los Angeles, CA 90064  
US

Technical Contact:

WhoisGuard  
WhoisGuard Protected  
(b329987c37ed4db3bbbd4719df605de4.protect@whoisguard.com)  
+1.6613102107  
Fax: +1.6613102107  
11400 W. Olympic Blvd. Suite 200  
Los Angeles, CA 90064  
US

Status: Locked

Name Servers:

ns1.cpanelgold.com  
ns2.cpanelgold.com

Creation date: 08 Nov 2011 01:58:00  
Expiration date: 07 Nov 2013 17:58:00

\* \* \*

In future, remember the simple rule: if it sounds too good to be true, it is. And don't send copies of exciting money-making offers you find on the Web to your friends until you check out the pages' legitimacy. Finally, since I'm in advising mode, never put a distribution list in the CC field unless the people have to

communicate with each other: use the BCC field. See <  
<http://www.mekabay.com/infosecmgmt/emailsec.pdf>> for guidelines on e-mail usage.

Best wishes,

Mich

=>o ASCII ribbon campaign against HTML e-mail o<=

Something I thought of later: there's a different kind of work-at-home scam involving reshipping products. For details, see SNOPE.SCOM report "Reshipper scam" <  
<http://www.snopes.com/crime/fraud/reshipper.asp>> and the United States Postal Inspection Service short films "Work@Home Scams: They Just Don't Pay" <  
[http://www.mekabay.com/cyberwatch/uspis\\_wahs.zip](http://www.mekabay.com/cyberwatch/uspis_wahs.zip)> and "Dialing for Dollars" <  
[http://www.mekabay.com/cyberwatch/uspis\\_dfd.zip](http://www.mekabay.com/cyberwatch/uspis_dfd.zip)>

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