



ST£RLING

Proactive Prevention Team

This is not an advert

This is a police crime prevention message to minimise the threat of **your** company becoming the victim of a serious fraud.

Working together with Companies House and key partners in industry we have identified a method in which organised criminal networks are hi-jacking the identities of legitimate companies as a way of obtaining high value goods and services on their credit rating.

We have developed an enforcement strategy to combat this threat but we need you to play your part in its prevention.

To protect your business from FRAUD please take the 4 simple steps given on the reverse of this leaflet.

1 Check your 'REGISTERED DETAILS' (Directors, Company Secretary and Company Address) at Companies House.

Make sure these are correct and that they have not been fraudulently changed.



2 File your documents on line and sign up for 'PROOF' at Companies House.

In January 2005 Companies House introduced 'PROOF', a free, password protected, 'on-line system' for companies to alter their details on the register. This system is far more secure than the existing 'paper record' system as no changes can be made without the password.

For further details about PROOF, contact 0870 3333636 or visit www.companieshouse.gov.uk.

Supported by:



3 Sign up to an 'alert' system that will warn you of any future changes to your company details.

Companies House and all of the major credit reference agencies have suitable subscription systems in place at nominal cost. These will promptly alert you if any changes are made to your company's details.



4 Do not rely on Companies House records alone if determining whether to lend goods or service on credit.

Companies House is a public record and **not** a crime prevention service or credit reference agency. Always satisfy yourself that your customer is legitimate through additional means.



GOVERNMENT OFFICE
FOR LONDON



PLEASE DO THIS NOW BEFORE IT'S TOO LATE

For more information on fraud visit www.met.police.uk/fraudalert