

HKMA, banking and stored value facility sectors support the launch of Scameter to fight against fraud

The following is issued on behalf of the Hong Kong Monetary Authority:

The Hong Kong Monetary Authority (HKMA), together with the Hong Kong Association of Banks (HKAB), the banking and stored value facility (SVF) sectors, support the launch of an anti-fraud search engine "Scameter" by the Hong Kong Police Force (HKPF) which will enhance the prevention, detection and disruption of fraud in our community as well as reduce financial losses of the public.

The new engine, Scameter, allows the public to search various data (including bank account numbers, SVF user IDs and phone numbers) and provides a coloured risk-rated response. Where the inputted data is linked to fraud, Scameter helps alert the public to the potential level of risk before making payments or conducting transactions which could potentially expose them to prevalent types of fraud, such as online shopping fraud, investment fraud and romance scams. The search engine and more details are available on the website of CyberDefender (www.CyberDefender.hk).

This data also represents relevant information for banks and SVF licensees in their ongoing anti-fraud efforts. The HKMA has worked closely with the HKPF, HKAB and SVF licensees on practical guidance, including the HKMA's circulars issued today (October 6) and HKAB's latest update of its Frequently Asked Questions in relation to anti-money laundering and counter-financing of terrorism (AML/CFT). Banks and SVF licensees can review and update individual AML/CFT systems taking into account these latest developments.

The HKMA also publicises consumer educational messages on its [dedicated webpage](#) and makes joint efforts with the banking and SVF sectors in raising public awareness of fraud. The HKMA will continue its engagement with banks and SVF licensees to enhance the efficiency of AML/CFT controls and further protect the public from fraud and financial crimes.