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Alert: Bogus Electrical Websites

Fraudsters have set up a high specification website template advertising various electrical goods and domestic appliances. These goods are listed below market value and do not exist. The fraudsters will request your card details via the website, however the purchaser will then receive an email stating the payment failed and they must pay via bank transfer.

The fraudsters entice the purchaser and reassure them it is a legitimate purchase by using the widely recognised Trusted Shop Trustmark. The fraudsters are using the Trustmark fraudulently and have not been certified by Trusted Shops and therefore the purchaser is not covered by the Trusted Shop money-back guarantee.

How to Protect Yourself

- Check the authenticity of the websites before making any purchases.
 Conduct a 'whois' search on the website which will identify when the website has been created. Be wary of newly formed domains. You can conduct this search using the following website https://who.is/.
- Carry out online research in relation to the website, company name and the business address provided to identify any poor feedback or possible irregularities.
- Check the Trusted Shops Facebook page where warnings about websites
 using their Trustmark are published. If you are in doubt about the
 legitimacy of a Trustmark then you can contact Trusted Shops on 0203 364
 5906 or by email service@trustedshops.co.uk. They will confirm whether
 they have certified that website.
- Payments made via bank transfer are not protected should you not received the item. Therefore always try to make the payment via PayPal or a credit card where you have some payment cover should you not receive your product.
- If the item advertised seems too good to be true, then it probably is.

If you, or anyone you know, have been affected by this fraud or any other scam, report it to Action Fraud by calling 0300 123 2040 or visiting www.actionfraud.police.uk.

Prevention Advice

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The ECD needs feedback from our readers to evaluate the quality of our products and to inform our priorities. Please would you complete the following ECD feedback survey through: https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/FeedbackSDU. This should take you no more than 2 minutes to complete. If you have other feedback or additional information that you would prefer to provide by email please send this to NFIBfeedback@cityoflondon.pnn.police.uk

If you have been forwarded this alert and wish to subscribe to fraud alerts from the National Fraud Intelligence Bureau, please contact MFIBOutputs@cityoflondon.pnn.police.uk and we will add you to our distribution list.



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