## FSMA FINANCIAL SERVICES AND MARKETS AUTHORITY

## Press release

## APEX EQUITIES, SOUTH-EAST ASIA TRADERS AND SOUTH-EAST ASIA REGISTRAR

The Financial Services and Markets Authority (FSMA) warns the public against the activities of Apex Equities and South-East Asia Traders, companies that offer investment services.

Apex Equities and South-East Asia Traders are not authorized investment firms in Belgium. They are therefore not allowed to provide investment services in or from Belgium.

Moreover, according to the information available to the FSMA, the activities proposed could be of a fraudulent nature, i.e. boiler room fraud. More information on this form of fraud is available in the general warning published by the FSMA on 4 May 2016.

The FSMA thus strongly advises against responding to any offer of financial service made by Apex Equities and South-East Asia Traders, and against transferring money to any account number they might mention.

According to information in the FSMA's possession, Apex Equities is apparently approaching investors who had previously invested with various companies about which the FSMA has issued warnings (Brandt-Swift Associates, White-Miller Associates, South-East Asia Traders, Genkai Securities, Changsheng Associates, etc.). The approach taken by Apex Equities may vary: either it tells investors that it has taken over the aforementioned companies, or it claims to be able to recover the funds they invested with those companies. The latter practice is a common feature of "recovery room" fraud, a type of fraud about which the FSMA issued a warning dated 16 March 2015.

Apex Equities uses the website apex-equities.com, the email address contact@apex-equities.com and the phone number +852 5808 0469. It claims to have its registered office in Hong Kong (Cheung Kong Center, 2 Queen's Road, Central).

South-East Asia Traders uses the website www.southeastasiatraders.com, the email address contact@southeastasiatraders.com and the phone number +852 5808 4590. It claims to have its registered office in Hong Kong (Causeway Bay, 88 Hing Fat Street).

Apex Equities also works with South-East Asia Registrar, a company that claims to be a transfer agent. The latter company uses the website www.sea-registrar.com and the email address contact@sea-registrar.com. It claims to have its registered office in Singapore (Ocean Financial Centre, 10 Collyer Quay, Central Region).

Not only does Apex Equities have ties with <u>Brandt-Swift Associates</u>, <u>White-Miller Associates</u>, South-East Asia Traders, <u>Genkai Securities</u> and <u>Changsheng Associates</u>, but is also suspected of having ties with <u>Experia Management Group</u>, <u>Jones Shaw Capital Partners</u>, <u>Peston & Sons Securities</u>, <u>Neuberger and Co. Wealth Management</u> and <u>Cunningham Mutual</u>, companies about which the FSMA has also published a warning.



If you wish to check in general whether a proposed transaction complies with the financial regulations, please use the search function (available in <u>Dutch</u> and <u>French</u> only) on the website of the FSMA. You can also contact the FSMA (email address: <u>info@fsma.be</u>).

## Brussels, 04 May 2016

Press contact Jim Lannoo

Spokesman

Email Press@fsma.be