From: 22 @asic.gov.au
Sent on: Monday, August 4, 2014 10:31:41 PM
To: 22 @asic.gov.au
CC: 22 @aexp.com; @aexp.com; @anz.com; @boq.com.au; @bankwest.com.au; @bendigoadelaide.com.au; @citi.com; @cba.com.au; @hsbc.com.au; @hsbc.com.au; @jpmorgan.com; @nab.com.au; @suncorp.com.au; @westpac.com.au
Subject: URGENT - COLD CALLING SCAM: ARIES VENTURES INC (Treat as In Confidence) [DLM=Sensitive]

Dear Sir / Madam,

URGENT - COLD CALLING SCAM: ARIES VENTURES INC

The Australian Securities & Investments Commission (**ASIC**) has received information concerning a cold calling scam operating =under the name of **Aries Ventu=res Inc.** After conducti=ng further inquiries, ASIC confirms that Aries Ventures Inc =is an unlicensed foreign entity =that has made unsolicited calls to Australian victims to convince them =to invest in non-existent financial products. Victims are then directed= to deposit funds into an identified foreign bank account. Details of t=he bank account are listed below.

Beneficiary name: Aries Ventures Inc Aìount (AIHCA)
Beneficiary address: 1745 Broadway, 17=th Floor, New York City, New York, 10019
Account number: 2102516505
Bank name: U.S. Central Bank Federal Reserve, Washington DC
ABA Number: 325070980

ASIC has formed the view that Aries Ven=tures Inc's operations constitute a cold-calling scam. ASIC is aware th=at Australian investors have been induced to provide funds by the convi=ncing telephone calls and associated websites used by the operators of =these scams.

ASIC has added the details of Aries Ventures Inc to its public list of ="unlicensed overseas callers and fake regulators" located at =www.moneysmart.gov.au. You may access this list at the =following specific address: http://www.moneysmart.gov.au/scams/companie=s-you-should-not-deal-with

Action Required

ASIC is seeking to prevent further transfers being made to these scams =by Australian investors. To prevent further clients from falling =victim to these operators, ASIC recommends that your financial institut=ion establish a process whereby any future fund transfer requests to th=e account identified above are immediately detected and blocked.

Further, and importantly, you may wish to undertake internal searches t=o identify any clients that may have transferred funds into the above b=ank account and contact them directly, to bring to their attention the =issues raised above and notify them that ASIC considers Aries Ventures =Inc to be part of an international scam and that no further funds shoul=d be forwarded to the account.

In the event that your clients have further queries regarding these col=d calling scams, please direct them to contact ASIC's Infoline on 1300 00 630. Alternatively, they may wish to lodge a confidential report of= misconduct via ASIC's website or in writing to:

Misconduct & Breach Reporting
ASIC
GPO Box 9827
Brisbane QLD 4001

Should you have any queries or would like further information regarding= this matter, please contact me.

Yours sincerely

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