Asset Tracing and Recovery
Tracing and chasing the money trail

Deloitte Forensic
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Globalization has facilitated the transfer and movement of assets to all parts of the world with each international jurisdiction enforcing their local laws and regulations. Accordingly, in today’s environment sophisticated ‘criminals’ are deploying (and ever more so) complex financial vehicles to conceal the location and source of misappropriated assets. Resultantly, it is difficult to identify assets located across multiple jurisdictions and moreover it is problematic to obtain a favorable decree and enforce the recovery claim in these international jurisdictions.

Our experienced forensic and technology practitioners use a sophisticated array of tools and resources to analyze financial systems and reconstruct records to find out where funds have gone, in multi-jurisdictional asset searches, and most importantly work on getting them back. Our Asset Tracing and Recovery experts will work with you and your legal adviser to attempt to recover misappropriated funds, quickly and discreetly.

We can help you to ascertain

Situations where asset tracing can be of immense assistance

- Dispute circumstances/legal discourse
- Distressed investment for Private equity/equity holders
- Enforcement of legal decree/financial judgments/recovery orders
- Pre-investment due diligence
- Contractual negotiations
- Stressed asset management

We can help you to ascertain

- Real estate properties and intangible assets
- Moveable properties like cars, yachts and airplanes
- Other business associations and interests
- Financial assets

“Asset recovery is all about moving quickly. If steps are not put in place early, the prospect of finding the money, even if you can trace it, gets more uncertain as each day passes.”
How Deloitte Forensic can help
Suggestive investigative/recovery process

Deloitte’s Forensic Asset tracing process involves the following key steps:
- Identification of assets
- Verification of asset ownership
- Mapping related owners
- Mapping types of assets

Areas that we specifically delve into:
- Verification of ownership of the assets
- Family tree and layering of disclosed/undisclosed entities structure to understand potential ownership
- Details of additional tangible assets and verification of ownership either through source enquiries or documented evidence, where available
- Quantum of funds and wealth in other asset classes
- Credit defaults against assets or charges registered against assets
- Detailed analysis of movements of advances towards purchase of assets or investments in facilities
- Detailed analysis of investments in fixed assets and investment pattern in subsidiaries, if any to obtain leads of assets, of the key affiliates and subsidiaries and of the other entities
- Proof of the ultimate beneficial ownership trail or evidence that assets represent the proceeds of a fraud or other crime

Certain challenges for recovery of assets
- Intensive preliminary investigations (prior to conducting fieldwork) to identify assets and their ownership structure
- Proof of the ultimate beneficial ownership trail or evidence that assets represent the proceeds of a fraud or other crime
- Use of trust and offshore companies by international criminals
- Understanding the local laws and regulations in international jurisdictions
- Challenges of data protection and secrecy laws/treaties/legislation to detect and seize assets
- Criminals may have substantial resources available with which to hide their assets and protect themselves vigorously against legal action
- The impact of cost benefit considerations on the selection of legal strategy

Deloitte Forensic Experience

Our asset tracing team is experienced in working with legal professionals to locate, identify and freeze stolen assets. We are experts at tracing a transaction from its origin through to its destination. We can also help you to recover assets through civil remedies and act as court-appointed receivers to seize and manage recovered assets.

Our asset tracing team has experience in carrying out high value asset tracing investigations across multiple jurisdictions leveraging on local expertise of Deloitte Forensic teams across international locations. To ensure maximum effectiveness and efficiency, we use advanced techniques, combining accountancy based investigative methods and forensic technology with business intelligence.

Additionally, the strength of our team lies in the multi-disciplinary expertise brought forth by our practitioners. We have a highly skilled group consisting of experienced accountants, auditors, certified fraud examiners and anti-money laundering specialists, computer forensic practitioners, data analysts, corporate investigators, journalists, economists, lawyers and former regulators, to name a few.