# ROLE OF SOCIAL MEDIA IN COUNTERFEITING AND OTHER ILLICIT ACTIVITIES

April 27, 2022



# THIS WORKSHOP WILL DELVE INTO THE ROLE SOCIAL MEDIA PLAYS IN ONLINE COUNTERFEITING AND ITS CONNECTION TO OTHER ILLICIT ACTIVITIES ON SOCIAL MEDIA

**Moderator:** Eric Hawk, Anti-illicit Trade Director EU+ The Americas, JTI

#### **Speakers:**

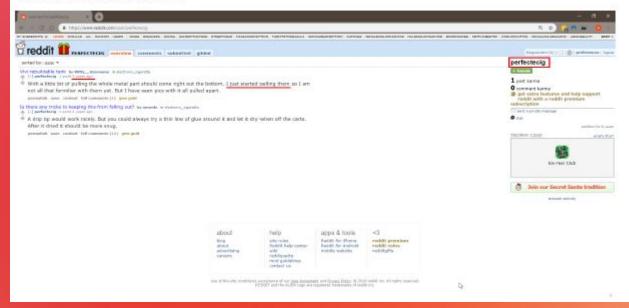
- Fiona Gao, Director of Brand Protection Strategy, LexisNexis
- Christopher Merriam, Senior Counsel, Computer Crime and Intellectual Property Section (CCIPS), United States Department of Justice



### CASE STUDY – REDDIT / FACEBOOK

#### Social media profiles

Screenshot: On Reddit, a user with the name perfectecig said "I just started selling them" five years ago under the subreddit of electronic\_cigarette.<sup>5</sup>

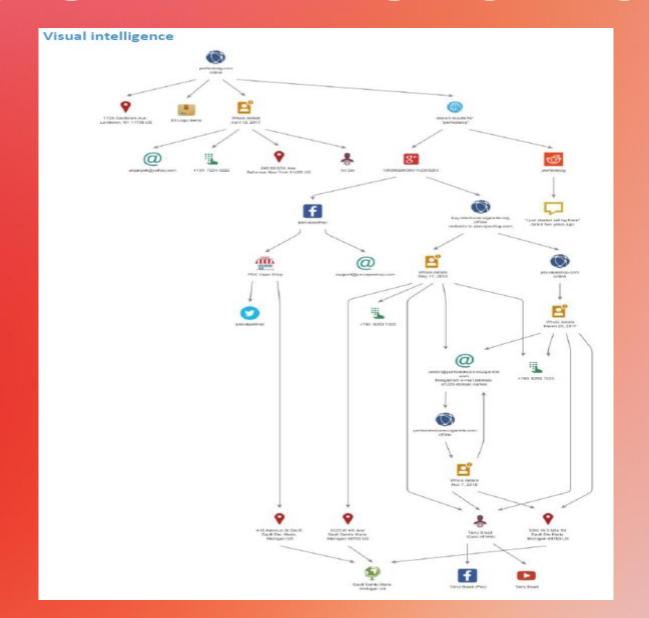




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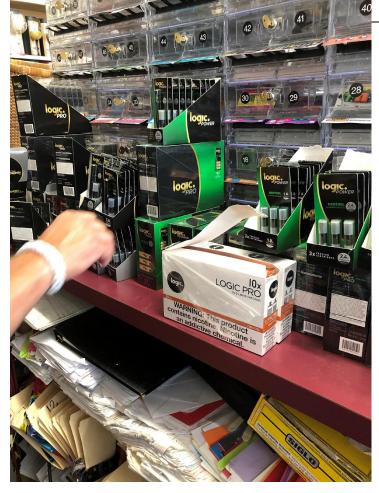


## CASE STUDY - INVESTIGATION REPORT





Operation IILogic - Results







5

#### **Operation IILogic - Results**







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### **Operation IlLogic - Results**





#### **Operation IlLogic - Results**



#### **Operation IlLogic - Results**

Started with a social media post offering suspected counterfeit Logic

Online investigation conducted by a service provider

Report received and prepared for law enforcement

Took part in the raids together with law enforcement

#### **Results**

- 1. Counterfeit removed from the market
- 2. Conviction and jail time for the group involved
- 3. Restitution ordered for my company
- 4. Legitimate sales increased

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