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### Could You Be A Scam Victim?

By News Canada

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1. Do you have a hectic lifestyle?
2. Could you use extra cash? Are you always on the lookout for a good deal?
3. Do you find it hard to say no to nice people?

If you answered yes to any of these questions, visit Industry Canada's Consumer Connection Web site at

and take ten minutes to do their Fraud quiz. Answer all of the questions on

the Quiz and a computer program will calculate your score and give you relevant tips on how to avoid getting caught by consumer scams and fraud.

It is shockingly easy to become a victim of fraud. Because of this the Fraud Files was launched. This is a program that offers clips of real people talking about becoming victims of fraud, and techniques thieves used to get their money. Fraud Files offers tips for recognizing a scam, how to protect yourself against fraud and a list of people to contact if you have fallen victim.

Consumer Connection is an award-winning Web site developed by the Office of Consumer Affairs of Industry Canada. It provides rapid access to consumer information, powerful tools to cut research time,

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and many useful links to consumer and other organizations. Canadians can access Consumer Connection from home, the public library, community access points or from Government of Canada, provincial and territorial service outlets. For a variety of information on everything from bank fees, to privacy rights, to the latest scams or frauds, this is the place to go.

provides a wide selection of current, ready-to-use copyright free news stories and ideas

for Television, Print, Radio, and the Web.

is a niche service in public relations, offering access to print, radio, television, and now

the Internet media, with ready-to-use, editorial "fill" items. Monitoring and analysis are two more of our primary services. The service supplies access to the national media for marketers in the private, the public, and the not-for-profit sectors. Your corporate and product news, consumer tips and information are packaged in a variety of ready-to-use formats and are made available to every Canadian media organization including weekly and daily newspapers, cable and commercial television stations, radio stations, as well as the Web sites Canadians visit most often. Visit

and learn more about

the NC services.

Frustrated with Internet dating game? Scammers drive you crazy? Great e-book from dating scam expert. High conversion rate.

### **Identity Theft Scams**

**By James H. Dimmitt**

Identity Theft scams continue to flourish on the web. One that you need to be aware of and beware of is any site that seems to be selling high-demand items (digital cameras for instance) at a much lower (almost unbelievable) price than you can find on other sites or the manufacturer's site.

Often the victim's are told to pay nothing until they receive the merchandise. The person behind the scam uses the victim's name and a credit card number belonging to another person to purchase the item at a legitimate site.

Once the item is shipped, the victim then authorizes his credit card to be billed or sends payment directly to the scammer. The scammer has now put you in the position of being in receipt of stolen merchandise while they get away with your money.

Another scam that still seems to be working is being contacted through e-mail by someone claiming to be from your credit card company, your internet service provider, Paypal, or Ebay.

The scammer will send a message stating that your account information needs to be verified because

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their files were hacked into, their database crashed or they believe that someone has tried to steal your account information and they want to verify your information in order to protect your account. The con artist then uses the information supplied to "verify" your account to run up fraudulent charges.

NEVER give personal information to a company, such as AOL or Ebay, that already has it. If you are suspicious about being contacted, contact the company yourself before giving out any personal information.

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Author: James H. Dimmitt.

Get your FREE credit report online now and subscribe to our FREE weekly newsletter "TO YOUR CREDIT".

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for more information.

DON'T BE A VICTIM. Use PROVEN fraud protection techniques to SAFEGUARD YOU and YOUR FAMILY against IDENTITY THEFT.

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