

DEALER CLONING SCAM EXPOSED

International fraudsters are operating 50+ fake dealership websites selling tractors, heavy equipment, and classic muscle cars they don't own. Here's how the scheme works and how to protect yourself.




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HOW THE SCHEME WORKS



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TEMPLATE FINGERPRINTS: WHAT LINKS THESE SITES



14-Day Buy-Back Guarantee

Every site promises full refund with "no questions asked" processed in 48 hours


"Full refund, no questions asked, processed in 48 hours"



30-Day Mechanical Warranty

Coverage on engine, transmission, and hydraulics mentioned identically


"30-Day Warranty on engine, transmission, hydraulics"



"Trust Kit" Pre-Payment

VIN verification, inspection reports, and photos sent to build false trust


"We don't ask for blind trust, we earn it"



Warehouse Business Model

Claims of low overhead, fast turnover, sourcing from auctions across 50 states


"Fast turnover at low margins"



Nationwide Delivery Only

No in-person visits allowed. Insured lowboy or enclosed shipping promised

"Own transportation fleet, nationwide delivery"




Irreversible Payments Only

Wire transfer, ACH, or cashier's check. Never credit cards or escrow

"Complete your purchase through wire transfer"

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CRITICAL RED FLAGS



NEW DOMAIN, OLD CLAIMS

Site registered weeks ago but claims "years of experience" or "thousands of units sold"


WHOIS lookup shows domain is less than 6 months old



BELOW-MARKET PRICES

Equipment priced 30-50% below market value with vague excuses about "low overhead"


\$50,000 tractor listed for \$15,000



NO IN-PERSON VISITS

Seller refuses inspection and insists on delivery-only transactions


"I cannot receive you until next week"



PRESSURE TACTICS

Claims other buyers are interested, demands immediate wire transfer


"Go to the bank in 30 minutes"



STOLEN/AI PHOTOS

Images stolen from real dealers or AI-generated with artifacts like extra fingers

Reverse image search reveals source



FAKE ADDRESSES

Listed locations are public buildings, vacant lots, or ports with no affiliation

Google Street View shows no dealership

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THE REAL IMPACT



Farmers

Delay planting seasons because equipment never arrives, losing entire crop cycles

\$45,500

One victim's loss



Real Dealers

Legitimate businesses have their identity stolen, reviews destroyed, and reputation ruined

100s

Angry victims showing up



Older Adults

















Often targeted because they have savings and may be less familiar with online fraud tactics

\$37,000

Another victim's loss


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KNOWN SCAM PHONE NUMBERS

 970-500-3764 TractoMaxx Supply	 320-633-2194 Five Acre Tractor	 717-539-4744 Meadow Ridge	 380-233-4981 Igal Autos
 320-526-2024 Pentara Auto	 318-666-5416 Horizon Car Sales	 575-912-2490 Dude's Tractor	 386-552-1277 Star Tractor
 417-526-2432 Benton Tractor	 580-741-2860 Pioneer Ridge	 585-889-8458 Valley Tractor	 659-204-1955 Ironwood Tractor
 207-495-4082 QCA Equipment	 430-507-7304 Salthouse Auto	 507-905-1980 Sterling Wheels	 419-345-1076 Silverline Auto


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PROTECT YOURSELF




INSPECT IN PERSON

Always view vehicles or equipment before sending money. Hire a local mechanic if you can't go yourself.




CHECK DOMAIN AGE

Use WHOIS to verify when the site was created. New domains claiming years of history are red flags.



REVERSE IMAGE SEARCH

Copy photos and search Google Images or TinEye. Stolen images expose the scam.



NEVER WIRE MONEY

Use credit cards or escrow services with buyer protection. Wires are irreversible.