

SCAM ALERTS

Megabyte.com

(Reported September 2009)

Recently OSU has experienced a repeat in a telemarketing scam by **Megabyteinfo.com**. This scam involves a phone call request for payment to this company who also goes by I.T. Data Direct, IT & T Switzerland and Infogroup Direct. This company has been known to call OSU staff claiming that they have an OSU-approved order for placement of OSU in an online directory. When pressed for more information the company typically claims that a verbal order was placed. The company then follows up with repeated requests for payment, adding late charges to the bill. If your department is contacted by this company, **do not** provide them with your departmental procurement card information or agree to pay the invoice. They may make threatening statements, but remember, unless your department has issued an order, your department is not responsible for paying the bill.

You may want to familiarize your department staff responsible for ordering and payment with information that can be found at this website for scam alerts:

<http://www.ripoffreport.com/Internet-Marketing-Companies/I-T-DATA-DIRECT/i-t-data-direct-infogroup-di-78jc2.htm>

This is a good reminder that departments should have appropriate ordering procedures in place for purchases within their delegated authority and that they should make sure that orders are appropriately placed before processing any payments.