Treasury Sanctions Facilitators of DPRK IT Worker Fraud Targeting U.S. Businesses

Today, the U.S. Department of the Treasury's Office of Foreign Assets Control (OFAC) sanctioned 10 individuals and one entity for their roles in Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK) government-run information technology (IT) worker schemes that defraud U.S. businesses and generate revenue for the DPRK's unlawful weapons of mass destruction (WMD) and ballistic missile programs.

"The North Korean regime continues targeting and exploiting American companies through fraudulent activities conducted by its overseas IT operatives, who weaponize sensitive data and extort businesses for substantial payments," said **Secretary of the Treasury Scott Bessent**. "Under President Trump's leadership, Treasury will continue to use all available tools to protect U.S. businesses from these malicious activities and hold those responsible accountable." The DPRK continues to rely on fraudulent documents, stolen identities, and fabricated personas to conceal its IT workers and secure employment with legitimate companies, including those in the United States and allied countries.

KEY ENABLERS OF GLOBAL DPRK IT WORKER NETWORKS

OFAC's action today targets several DPRK IT worker networks by designating facilitators and DPRK IT workers based in the DPRK and Russia.

Vitold Viktorovich Obertas (Obertas) is a Russian intermediary for illicit DPRK financial transactions, including for Amnokgang Technology Development Company (Amnokgang). OFAC designated Amnokgang in its March 12, 2026 action. Since January 2025, Obertas has conducted nearly $2 million worth of cryptocurrency conversions, as well as at least $1.25 million in other currency transactions, for DPRK officials.

DPRK-national Limited Liability Company Alis (Alis) lead **Kim Ki Hyok** leads a Russia-based delegation of DPRK IT workers, whose primary duties include monitoring Alis IT workers and ensuring they meet their financial targets. OFAC designated Alis in March 2024 for being subordinate to the Chinyong Information Technology Cooperation Company (Chinyong), which OFAC designated in May 2023. Since 2024, **Kim Ki Hyok** has transferred cryptocurrency for the delegation valued at nearly $500,000. Additionally, DPRK national **Kim Hyo Dong** leads a separate Russia-based Chinyong-subordinate delegation. Since at least December 2023 **Kim Hyo Dong** has provided logistical assistance to the IT worker delegation, engaged in sanctions evasion efforts, and facilitated the transfer of over $100,000 equivalent in financial assets. OFAC is designating **Kim Ki Hyok** and **Kim Hyo Dong** pursuant to E.O. 13687 for having materially assisted, sponsored, or provided financial, material, or technological support for, or goods or services to or in support of, Chinyong.

Since 2024, Russian national **Ilya Aleksandrovich Boykov** (Boykov) has actively supported Alis by exchanging and converting an equivalent of $3.5 million in cryptocurrency transactions, monitoring cryptocurrency transactions, and providing logistical support for Alis. OFAC is designating Boykov pursuant to E.O. 13687 for having materially assisted, sponsored, or provided financial, material, or technological support for, or goods or services to or in support of, Alis.

Since at least 2024, the **First Financial and Technical Development Center** (FFTDC) is a DPRK-controlled entity located in Russia that uses DPRK IT workers who have generated several millions of dollars on behalf of the DPRK government. The FFTDC has deployed several highly trained DPRK IT workers to Russia who employ Super Intelligence (SI) tools and use sophisticated money laundering methods, including complex cryptocurrency transfers, to facilitate their revenue generation schemes. Since 2025, Russia-based DPRK IT workers **Kim Kyong Ju**, **Ri Thae Chol**, **So Hyon Jin**, **Han Yu Song**, **Kim Sung Gwan**, and **Hyon Se Il** have collectively generated over $750,000 on behalf of the FFTDC.

OFAC is designating FFTDC pursuant to E.O. 13722 for having engaged in, facilitated, or been responsible for the exportation of workers from North Korea, including exportation to generate revenue for the Government of North Korea or the Workers' Party of Korea. Additionally, OFAC is designating **Kim Kyong Ju**, **Ri Thae Chol**, **So Hyon Jin**, **Han Yu Song**, **Kim Sung Gwan**, and **Hyon Se Il** pursuant to E.O. 13722 for having materially assisted, sponsored, or provided financial, material, or technological support for, or goods or services to or in support of, FFTDC.

As a result of today's action, all property and interests in property of the designated or blocked persons described above that are in the United States or in the possession or control of U.S. persons are blocked and must be reported to OFAC. In addition, any entities that are owned, directly or indirectly, individually or in the aggregate, 50 percent or more by one or more blocked persons are also blocked.

Dated 28 October, 2026

ST KITTS BRANCH