

October 8, 2026

To Whom It May Concern at Sunteng:

The Citizen Lab, an interdisciplinary laboratory based at the Munk School of Global Affairs & Public Policy, University of Toronto, is currently researching the Israeli advertising company Discover-Tech Ltd.

Background

We found that Discover-Tech Ltd. facilitates the delivery of mercenary spyware via targeted advertisements. Our research establishes that Discover-Tech operates a platform called Controlium that enables multiple mercenary spyware partners to de-anonymize, fingerprint, and automatically infect devices the moment an advertisement is rendered.

Mercenary spyware refers to surveillance products that are developed by private companies and sold to governments for the purpose of undertaking surveillance operations by deploying spyware on the devices of victims.

We found that Discover-Tech Ltd. delivers both malicious and benign ads via several advertising vendors including Google, Yandex, FreeWheel, Eskimi, Liftoff, and Sunteng. We also found that Discover-Tech Ltd. works closely with mercenary hacking company Candiru.

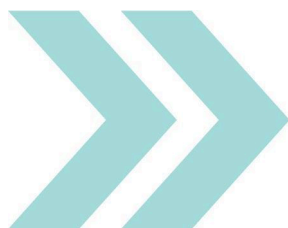
Research findings with respect to Sunteng

Specifically, with respect to your company, our research confirms the following:

- According to ad bidding records reviewed by us, Discover-Tech Ltd. delivered ads via Sunteng, presumably via Discover-Tech Ltd.'s advertising system MyDSP. The records show that Discover-Tech made bids on about one million ad placements via Sunteng between March and June 2026.

Request for further information

In addition to seeking a response on our findings described above, we also ask that you confirm:



munkschool.utoronto.ca

At Trinity College
1 Devonshire Place
Toronto, ON
Canada M5S 3K7
T: 416.946.8900 F: 416.946.8915

At the Observatory
315 Bloor Street West
Toronto, ON
Canada M5S 0A7
T: 416.946.8929 F: 416.946.8877

At the Canadiana Gallery
14 Queen's Park Crescent West
Toronto, ON
Canada M5S 3K9
T: 416.978.5120 F: 416.978.5079

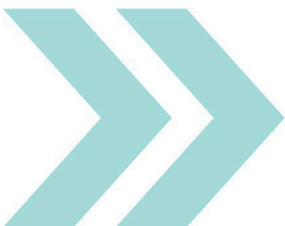


- Can you confirm that Sunteng or a related company (Shunfei Technology, BiddingX, or Bidex) processed ad bidding requests associated with Discover-Tech Ltd.? If yes, since when did Sunteng process ad bidding requests associated with Discover-Tech Ltd.?
- Is Discover-Tech Ltd. or a company associated with it a customer or partner of Sunteng? If yes, what is or was the nature of this business relationship, since when did it exist, and how does Sunteng screen its customers and partners? If no, how was Discover-Tech able to make ad bids via Sunteng as indicated by our findings?
- How does Sunteng prevent its ad systems from distributing malicious ads, including spyware? Has Sunteng any terms or policies in place that prohibit customers and partners from distributing malicious ads including spyware? How are these terms or policies monitored and enforced?
- How will Sunteng act on our findings?

We plan to publish a report reflecting our research. Provided we receive your response by 10 am ET on October 13, 2026, we will publish any response you provide us in full along with our research report. All correspondence with your company will be considered public and included with the final research report.

Sincerely,

Ronald J. Deibert, O.C., O.Ont.
Professor of Political Science
Director, the Citizen Lab at the Munk School of Global Affairs & Public Policy,
University of Toronto



munkschool.utoronto.ca

At Trinity College
1 Devonshire Place
Toronto, ON
Canada M5S 3K7
T: 416.946.8900 F: 416.946.8915

At the Observatory
315 Bloor Street West
Toronto, ON
Canada M5S 0A7
T: 416.946.8929 F: 416.946.8877

At the Canadiana Gallery
14 Queen's Park Crescent West
Toronto, ON
Canada M5S 3K9
T: 416.978.5120 F: 416.978.5079