Intercept 9500 takes offensive tack against cyberinfluence ops

As more companies enter the cyber-influence detection market, Israel's Intercept 9500 is taking a step further by offering counter-operations.

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According to our sources, <u>Intercept 9500</u>, the Israeli company best-known for its corporate intelligence operations, has launched a cyber-influence service a couple of days ago. *Cyfluence* offer permanent or ad-hoc monitoring, for instance during elections or other key moments, of manipulation operations attempts that are using both cyberattack and influence, the most emblematic type of which is hacking and leaking operation (HALO). The company goes further upstream than its competitors by monitoring the opponent's attempts to set up a dedicated infrastructure, which it can then stop before it can cause any damage to its customers. The company has also partnered with a strategic communications firm to offer its victims clients of such wrongdoing the possibility of launching a counter-campaign to mitigate the impact of the operation. Intercept 9500 has performed such anti cyber-influence services in the past at the request of wealthy clients and has decided to make it a more structured offering in response to growing demand.

A growing number of companies have sprung up in Washington, Paris and London to demand for solutions to combat cyber-influence operations (<u>IOL 861</u>, <u>IOL 863</u>). The fight against fake news, often perceived as a matter of national security, has not only prompted a strategic rethink about cyber-influence (<u>IOL 861</u>) but also led to a military and intelligence race in this area. The private sector seems to have taken the measure of the opportunities this presents, with startups such a France's <u>Sahar</u>, the American company <u>Primer Technologies</u> and Israel's <u>ActiveFence</u> joining the fight against fake news.

Founded in 1995, Intercept 9500 initially offered investigation services. The company quickly made open source intelligence (OSINT) its specialty and then extended its activities to the monitoring of social networks and the dark web.

Intercept 9500

Hod Hasharon. Founded and headed by Ital Yonat, Intercept 9500 - formerly I.T.M
Intelligent Technology Management - employs a number of former officers of Unit 8200, Israel's equivalent of the NSA. The company is actively looking to export. Recently Intercept 9500 has been making an effort to strengthen its French-speaking analysis teams.