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**From:** WAPI-Open-E\_Group@yahoo.com on behalf of Ian Withers - Priority Investigations [ian@pilimited.com]  
**Sent:** 15 July 2011 12:00  
**To:** UK2  
**Cc:** Irish PI Group  
**Subject:** [WAPI] WAPI - HACKING, BLAGGING, BUGGING AND TRACKING - THE LAW!!

THE MEDIA CAPITALISES ON THE CURRENT FURORE ON HACKING !!

WAPI totally agree with the ABI President on these Issues!

Those so-called Investigators out there that are advertising and accepting assignments which are wholly illegal and unethical really need to think about the damage they are doing to the wider Sector

We are hosting a Seminar to coincide with this year's WAPI Banquet and AGM (to be announced shortly)

to debate the thorny Issues of:

HACKING, BLAGGING, BUGGING AND TRACKING AND THE LAW!!

Read Today's Independent Article:

Eyes on the spies: The murky world of the private investigators

There are 10,000 private investigators operating in Britain - with no licensing, it's no wonder that many use illegal techniques. Rob Hastings uncovers uncomfortable facts about the industry behind the hacking scandal

By Rob Hastings

The Independent - Friday, 15 July 2011

Tony Imossi, president of the Association of British Investigators (ABI), says the PIs who provide unlawful hacking and bugging services were "criminals masquerading as professional investigators".

"All these services are illegal activities, and we would absolutely 100 per cent condemn them. We would not tolerate it from any of our members, and if any of those were linked to our members we would immediately put them through the disciplinary process with a view to expelling them."

The ABI has been calling for the trade it represents to be regulated for years, and has done its best to oversee the business itself in the absence of any legislation. But while it has been recognised by the Law Society for offering a reliable stamp of respectability to the many law-abiding PIs, the ABI has no jurisdiction over agents who choose not to become members.

Warned by another body, the World Association of Private Investigators, only 5 per cent of all PIs in the UK are affiliated to any of the trade's varied clubs. That means that all Mr Imossi can do is vet the ABI's voluntary members and keep his ear to the ground about others.

The full Article can be viewed at:

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