

Course: ML/TF/PF & Sanctions Evasion Typologies – Smarter Transaction Monitoring: From Red Flags to Rule Logic

DELIVERED BY:

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Seasoned expert with over 18 years of professional experience in finance, compliance, operational risk, and leadership across banking, investment, and regulatory domains.



OBJECTIVES:

- Explain the structure and logic of ML/TF/PF and sanctions evasion typologies across placement, layering, and integration stages
- Analyze how illicit funds are placed, layered, and integrated through real-life schemes
- Identify key transactional and behavioural red flags linked to each typology
- Design and calibrate TM rules with appropriate thresholds, lookback windows, and suppression logic per customer segment
- Apply multi-signal correlation logic to reduce false positives and improve alert-to-SAR conversion rates
- Understand continuous TM tuning principles – rule retirement, baseline benchmarking, and dynamic risk lists
- Link typologies to TM rule parameters and internal control frameworks
- Apply practical case-based examples illustrating detection and escalation techniques



SKILLS DELIVERED:

- Ability to map ML/TF/PF typologies to specific TM detection rules and risk scenarios
- Understanding of TM rule parameters: thresholds, lookback windows, velocity baselines, and calibration logic
- Competence in designing risk-based rules for structuring, shell companies, TBML, real estate, virtual assets, and loan-back schemes
- Skill in applying multi-signal correlation and behavioural baseline analysis to reduce false positives
- Awareness of alert-to-SAR conversion benchmarks and continuous tuning best practices
- Enhanced red flag detection and escalation judgment in a TM context



DESIGNED FOR:

- AML/CFT Officers
- Transaction Monitoring Analysts
- Compliance and Sanctions Professionals
- Risk Management Specialists
- Internal Audit Professionals
- Senior Management and Decision Makers

TOPIC	DURATION
<p>1. Structuring / Smurfing – TM Rule Calibration for Cash Placement Detection</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Near-threshold deposit rules: parameters, segment tuning, and suppression logic Cumulative structuring: sliding window vs. calendar lookback Multi-depositor same-account detection and velocity spike calibration Automated monitoring triggers and red flag cross-matching <p>TM System Calibration & Scenarios:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> How to set and tune near-threshold rules across different customer segments Choosing the right lookback window to catch structuring that spans month-ends When and how to suppress rules to reduce false positives on legitimate cash businesses Building a multi-signal scenario that links deposit patterns to behavioural red flags 	20 min.
<p>2. Online Casino “Cash-In, Cash-Out” – Threshold and Cycling Rules</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Deposit-minimal gambling-withdrawal cycle detection Structured withdrawal rules below reporting thresholds Prepaid card and crypto deposit monitoring parameters Mixing illicit and legitimate winnings: behavioural baseline rules <p>TM System Calibration & Scenarios:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> How to detect deposit-to-withdrawal cycling with minimal genuine gambling activity Calibrating structured withdrawal rules specific to gaming platform behaviour Monitoring parameters for non-standard payment methods including prepaid and crypto Using behavioural baselines to distinguish legitimate players from placement activity 	20 min.
<p>3. Cryptocurrency Mixing (“Tumbler”) – Blockchain Analytics and TM Integration</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fiat-to-crypto conversion rules: thresholds and VASP identification Mixer / high-risk wallet detection: zero-tolerance escalation logic Privacy coin transaction monitoring (Monero, Zcash, Dash) High-velocity fiat -> crypto -> fiat cycling rules 	20 min.

**COURSE PROGRAMME:
ML/TF/PF & SANCTIONS EVASION TYPOLOGIES –
SMARTER TRANSACTION MONITORING:
FROM RED FLAGS TO RULE LOGIC**

TOPIC	DURATION
<p>TM System Calibration & Scenarios:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How to configure fiat-to-crypto conversion rules and integrate VASP identification • What zero-tolerance escalation looks like in practice for mixer-linked transactions • Designing monitoring rules for privacy coins where blockchain transparency is limited • Detecting high-velocity cycling between fiat and crypto as a layering indicator 	
<p>4. Peer-to-Peer Loan Churning – Behavioural Monitoring Rules</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rapid borrow-repay cycle detection and multi-platform indicators • Loan-back scheme: deposit-collateral-loan match calibration • Third-party repayment rules and early repayment spike detection • Mixing legitimate and illicit funds: behavioural baseline analysis <p>TM System Calibration & Scenarios:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How to configure the deposit-collateral-loan match rule as a high-precision signal • Identifying third-party repayment patterns that indicate the integration phase • Calibrating early repayment spike detection alongside source-of-funds controls • Using behavioural baselines to flag loan activity inconsistent with customer profile 	20 min.
<p>5. Trade-Based Money Laundering – Invoice Deviation and Jurisdiction Mismatch Rules</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Invoice price deviation rules: commodity benchmarks and min-value thresholds • Multiple invoicing detection: reference matching and flag logic • Jurisdiction mismatch: payment country vs. shipping origin/destination • Payment ahead of goods: advance payment thresholds and sector whitelists <p>TM System Calibration & Scenarios:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How to integrate trade pricing data to power invoice deviation detection rules • Designing multiple invoicing detection using reference matching across systems • Building jurisdiction mismatch logic that flags payment routes inconsistent with trade flows • When to apply sector whitelists and how to avoid suppressing genuine advance payments 	20 min.
<p>6. Shell Companies & Straw-Men – Beneficial Ownership and Passthrough Monitoring</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • High-risk jurisdiction wire rules: dynamic FATF/EU list integration • Rapid passthrough detection: inflow/outflow ratio and net movement thresholds • Circular intragroup flow rules: graph analytics and round-tripping detection • New entity high-value rules: KYB cross-referencing and EDD triggers 	20 min.

TOPIC

DURATION

TM System Calibration & Scenarios:

- How to maintain and consume dynamic jurisdiction risk lists within your TM system
- Calibrating passthrough ratios and time windows to catch layering without over-alerting
- What graph analytics capability is needed to detect circular intragroup flows
- Linking new entity onboarding data to TM rules so high-value activity triggers EDD from day one

7. Circular Transactions – Graph-Based Detection and Network Logic

20 min.

- Funds-returning-to-origin: hop count, time window, and minimum amount thresholds
- Repeated below-threshold transactions: rolling window calibration
- Transaction network logic and graph-based detection principles
- Multi-signal correlation: combining circular flow with jurisdiction and entity risk

TM System Calibration & Scenarios:

- How to configure graph-based rules to detect closed transaction loops across entities
- Calibrating hop count, time windows, and minimum amounts to reduce noise
- What transaction network monitoring looks like and what tooling it requires
- Combining circular flow signals with jurisdiction and entity risk for smarter escalation

8. Complex Ownership Structures & OFAC 50% Rule – Sanctions Screening Integration

20 min.

- Direct and indirect ownership calculations in TM screening workflows
- Cumulative control mechanisms and hidden sanctioned exposure detection
- Integrating OFAC 50% rule into automated ownership risk assessment
- Linking ownership risk flags to transaction monitoring escalation

TM System Calibration & Scenarios:

- How to automate OFAC 50% rule calculations across multi-layer ownership chains
- Feeding ownership screening outcomes into TM rules as a dynamic risk input
- Triggering TM re-scoring when beneficial ownership structures change
- What integrated sanctions-TM escalation looks like end-to-end

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TOPIC	DURATION
<p>9. Sanctions Evasion – Mislabeling, Re-routing, and Trade Payment Monitoring</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dual-use goods manipulation: TM indicators and trade document cross-checks • Falsified documentation and shipping route detection rules • Intermediary jurisdiction flags and payment-route anomaly detection • Trade and payment monitoring indicators for sanctions evasion typologies <p>TM System Calibration & Scenarios:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How to design payment description anomaly rules that flag goods mislabeling • Building jurisdiction chain logic to detect indirect routing through non-sanctioned intermediaries • Integrating trade documentation data into payment screening workflows • What a combined trade-and-payment TM scenario for sanctions evasion looks like in practice 	20 min.
<p>10. TM Best Practice Principles & Conclusions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Risk-based thresholds: segment calibration (retail, SME, corporate, institutional) • Rolling lookback windows, baseline benchmarking, and false-positive reduction • Dynamic risk lists: FATF updates, PEP databases, and sanctions screening • Continuous tuning: alert-to-SAR conversion benchmarks and rule retirement <p>TM System Calibration & Scenarios:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A framework for calibrating TM rules by customer segment rather than applying uniform thresholds • How to measure TM system effectiveness and set realistic alert-to-SAR conversion targets • Building a continuous tuning cycle that keeps rules relevant as typologies evolve • Practical next steps for strengthening your organisation's TM calibration framework 	20 min.
TOTAL	3 hours


 **18/05/2026**

Starts at 10:00 UCT +3
2 parts (1.5h each) +
15 min. break

 **Duration: 3 hours**
(3 Non-ACAMS Credits)

 **Language:**
English

 **Delivery mode:**
Live Online

 **Skills level:**
Advanced

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