

# Is themediaonline.co.za legit? TrustSniffer's high-trust assessment: 100/100

themediaonline.co.za

## Verdict

100

OUT OF 100

HIGH TRUST

themediaonline.co.za appears legitimate.

Our checks found nothing pointing to fraud. Ordinary care still applies when you pay or sign in.

Not Scam

Safe for Login

Low Risk

Assessed 2026-08-01 by automated analysis. Classification confidence 75%.

What this site appears to be

The Media Online is a South African media-industry publication covering news, analysis, advertising, broadcasting, publishing, digital media, events, and education. The homepage includes editorial articles, partner content, newsletter signup, login functionality, and Arena Holdings ownership information.

## Evidence status and limitations

Evidence completeness: UNKNOWN

- Module-level completeness metadata is unavailable for this legacy report.

## At a glance

The checks that decide most of this verdict.

|                           |                                                            |                    |
|---------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------|
| Malware engines           | None flagged it<br>VirusTotal                              | <span>CLEAR</span> |
| Google Safe Browsing      | Not listed<br>Google                                       | <span>CLEAR</span> |
| Abuse reports on the host | 5 reports<br>AbuseIPDB; shared hosting inflates this count | <span>NOTED</span> |
| Domain age                | 19 years old<br>Registered history                         | <span>CLEAR</span> |
| Web archive               | Archived since 2008<br>5000 snapshots                      | <span>CLEAR</span> |
| Certificate               | Encrypted connection<br>Issued by WE1                      | <span>NOTED</span> |

## The page as captured

No screenshot is retained for this report.

## Key findings

- Automated classification: Not Scam.
- Domain age: more than 10 years (registration continuity).
- Public web-archive history exists since 2008.
- VirusTotal and Google Safe Browsing had no flags for this domain; its hosting IP carries AbuseIPDB reports below the confidence level TrustSniffer treats as a flag.

## Full analysis

### Overview

The Media Online is an established South African media-industry publication covering news, analysis, advertising, broadcasting, publishing, digital media, events, education, and related professional services. Its apparent business model combines editorial content with advertising, sponsored and partner content, newsletters, events, and possible subscription or gated material, under Arena Holdings ownership.

### Scam/Impersonation Risk

No contradictions were observed. The site's extensive editorial coverage, consistent media-industry purpose, identifiable ownership context, and absence of phishing, impersonation, malicious-content, or brand-conflict indicators support its legitimacy. The observed login and password-reset functionality is consistent with an account-enabled publication, and no hidden forms, wallet activity, cloaking, or malicious interaction patterns were identified.

EVIDENCE

- The homepage presents current editorial coverage across media, advertising, broadcasting, publishing, digital, and events.
- Historical records show continuous site activity from 2008 through 2025, with 5,000 snapshots spanning 18 tracked years.
- Domain registration telemetry records 2007-08-14 and an age of 18.98 years.
- External reputation checks recorded no malicious or suspicious detections and no confirmed blacklist finding.

### Regulatory Verification Notes

The site presents itself as a media publication rather than a financial-services provider, and no financial-services license claim is identified. The homepage provides Arena Holdings ownership context, while registration records identify Arena Holdings (Pty) Ltd and Lexsynergy Limited. This is a transparency and applicability matter for institutional onboarding, not evidence of deception. The site's transport security uses a valid DV certificate issued by WE1, expiring on 2026-09-09.

#### EVIDENCE

- The homepage identifies Arena Holdings as the associated owner.
- Registration records list Arena Holdings (Pty) Ltd as the organization and Lexsynergy Limited as registrar.
- The site's TLS certificate is issued by WE1, uses DV validation, and is valid to 2026-09-09.

#### What to Verify Next

For a formal business relationship, confirm the operating-entity details through official corporate materials, establish which contractual or media-sector obligations apply to the proposed engagement, and independently confirm official contact channels before exchanging sensitive commercial information.

#### EVIDENCE

- The homepage supplies the ownership context needed for entity confirmation.
- The site provides newsletter, login, and password-reset functions that identify the principal user-interaction areas for account governance review.

#### Summary Verdict

The website presents a legitimate, established, and trustworthy operating profile with strong identity continuity, coherent business purpose, clean external reputation, and no observed contradiction signals. Normal interaction, including account login and standard use, is appropriate.

#### Infrastructure Integrity

The site is protected by Cloudflare CDN/WAF infrastructure, with observed addresses representing edge delivery rather than an exposed origin server. This architecture is a mitigating security control, although protective hosting alone is not proof of legitimacy.

#### EVIDENCE

- Served from AS13335 (CLOUDFLARENET - Cloudflare, Inc., US), with observed edge IP 162.159.135.42.
- The infrastructure is classified as Cloudflare CDN/WAF-protected, with 1 observed edge IP and 0 origin candidates.

#### Closing Assessment

Engagement may proceed through the site's ordinary channels, supported by standard organizational controls appropriate to the sensitivity and commercial value of the relationship.

Written analysis generated 2026-08-01 by the TrustSniffer Analysis Engine from the evidence in this report.

#### What the analysis found

No rule findings contributed to this verdict.

## Identity verification

|                                  |            |
|----------------------------------|------------|
| Status                           | UNVERIFIED |
| Identity score                   | 30/100     |
| Identity verification confidence | 50%        |

- No on-site identity signals detected

Identity verification measures whether the site can be independently connected to a real-world brand or person. It is separate from the classification confidence.

## What TrustSniffer observed

First-party facts recorded during the assessment of themediaonline.co.za.

- The request stayed on themediaonline.co.za. It was not redirected to another domain. CLEAR
- Registration is published under Lexsynergy Limited. CLEAR
- DNS for this domain is served by awsdns-00.net, across 4 name servers. NOTED
- The registration is paid up to 2027-08-14. NOTED
- The earliest public archive of this site is from 2008-04-08. CLEAR
- It is hosted on CLOUDFLARENET, from a server in US. NOTED

## Domain intelligence

|                    |                                                                                            |
|--------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Registrar          | Lexsynergy Limited                                                                         |
| Hosting            | CLOUDFLARENET - Cloudflare, Inc., US                                                       |
| Country            | US                                                                                         |
| Server IP          | 162.159.135.42                                                                             |
| Name servers       | ns-518.awsdns-00.net, ns-361.awsdns-45.com, ns-1837.awsdns-37.co.uk, ns-1511.awsdns-60.org |
| SSL issuer         | WE1                                                                                        |
| SSL expiry         | 2026-09-09                                                                                 |
| Domain age         | 19.0 years                                                                                 |
| Domain expiry      | 2027-08-14                                                                                 |
| Archive first seen | 2008-04-08                                                                                 |
| Archive snapshots  | 5000                                                                                       |
| Reputation         | VirusTotal: 0 flagged   AbuseIPDB: 5 reports   Google Safe Browsing: 0 matches             |

## About this assessment

A trust score summarises the evidence TrustSniffer could collect about themediaonline.co.za at assessment time. It is a starting point for your own judgement, not a guarantee: a high score means the signals were

consistent with a legitimately operated site, a low or critical score means several risk patterns were present.

TrustSniffer assesses a website from the evidence it can collect at a point in time: domain registration and age, hosting and certificate, the content the site served, and third-party reputation feeds. A score is a summary of that evidence, not a guarantee and not a legal finding. There is no human rating and no user review in it. A site can change after it is assessed.

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**This report online:** <https://trustsniffer.com/report/themediaonline.co.za> · assessed 2026-08-01