CHECKLIST · SCAMS & SECURITY

Spy-linked ads reached Australian government, power and nuclear research networks, Citizen Lab finds

Published 16 October 2026. Read the full story, sources and any updates at
digitaladvisors.com.au/journal/spy-ads-discover-tech-citizen-lab-australia/

- [ ] **Block web ads in managed browsers.** Have your IT provider confirm browsers do not process web advertisements from the internet, as Essential Eight Maturity Level One requires.
- [ ] **Look beyond the browser.** Ask whether ads and ad tracking are blocked at the network gateway, since most Discover-Tech bids were for ads inside mobile apps.
- [ ] **Switch off ad tracking on work phones.** Use mobile device management to opt company-issued phones out of ad targeting.
- [ ] **Watch traffic from ads.** Ask your security provider whether they monitor traffic linked to ad impressions for malicious requests.
- [ ] **Delete or reset your Android advertising ID.** Go to Settings, then Privacy, then Ads.
- [ ] **Stop iPhone apps asking to track you.** Go to Settings, then Privacy & Security, then Tracking, and turn off Allow Apps to Request to Track.
- [ ] **Install a trusted ad blocker in your browser.** Citizen Lab recommends one to reduce tracking.

NOTES

General information only, not legal, tax or financial advice. Check the full story and its sources before acting.