Korastratum

AML & Financial-Crime Glossary

The working vocabulary of anti-money-laundering, screening and identity — in plain language.

A plain-language reference for compliance teams

A Korastratum capability guide · AML · CFT · KYC · Sanctions · Typologies · Reporting · korastratum.com

REFERENCE

The terms your team and your regulator use.

A concise, honest glossary of the concepts behind Kora Compliance — from sanctions screening to structuring to liveness. Written for the compliance officer, not the data scientist.

A

Adverse media

Negative news screening — checking a party against open-source reporting of financial crime, fraud or other risk.

AML

Anti-Money Laundering — the controls that detect and prevent the disguising of illicit funds as legitimate.

Account takeover (ATO)

Fraud in which an attacker gains control of a legitimate customer's account.

B

Beneficial owner (UBO)

The natural person who ultimately owns or controls a legal entity, whom KYB must identify.

BVN

Bank Verification Number — a unique biometric identifier for bank customers in Nigeria.

Behavioural rule

A monitoring rule that flags deviation from a customer's own established transaction baseline.

C

Case management

The analyst workflow that turns an alert into an investigated, dispositioned and evidenced case.

CFT

Combating the Financing of Terrorism — controls that detect and disrupt funding of terrorist activity.

CTR

Currency Transaction Report — a mandatory report of cash transactions above a jurisdictional threshold.

Closed network

A small group of parties transacting repeatedly among themselves — a common layering structure.

F

Fail-closed

A control design in which an outage blocks / holds the action rather than letting it proceed unchecked.

Fan-in / fan-out

Many parties paying one beneficiary (in), or one account paying many (out) — classic mule patterns.

FATF

Financial Action Task Force — the global standard-setter for AML/CFT.

False-positive rate

The share of alerts that turn out to be legitimate — the core measure of screening / rule noise.

K

KYC

Know Your Customer — verifying the identity of an individual customer at onboarding and over time.

KYB

Know Your Business — verifying a legal entity, its directors and its ultimate beneficial owners.

L

Layering

The stage of laundering that moves funds through transactions to obscure their origin.

Liveness

Proof that a live human — not a photo, mask or video — is present during a biometric check.

REFERENCE · CONTINUED

The terms your team and your regulator use.

M

MRM
Model Risk Management — the governance and tuning of the models and rules behind detection.

Mule account
An account used to receive and forward illicit funds, often controlled by a third party.

N

NIN
National Identification Number — Nigeria's unique national identity identifier.

Network analytics
Detection of risk across relationships between parties rather than in a single transaction.

P

PEP
Politically Exposed Person — an individual in a prominent public role, carrying elevated risk.

Presentation attack
A spoof presented to a biometric sensor — a printed face, mask, or replayed video.

Pass-through
Funds that move in and straight back out of an account with little retained balance.

R

Round-tripping
Funds that leave a party or network and circle back, disguising origin or inflating activity.

Re-capture detection
Catching a photo of a screen or a printed copy of an ID presented as an original document.

S

Sanctions screening
Checking parties against government and international sanctions lists.

Structuring / smurfing
Splitting a large sum into many smaller transactions to stay under reporting thresholds.

STR / SAR
Suspicious Transaction / Activity Report — a regulatory filing on suspected financial crime.

Screen-and-hold
Screening a payment inline and holding it for review on a hit, before it settles.

T

Transaction monitoring (TM)
Ongoing, rule-based analysis of transactions to detect suspicious activity.

Typology
A recognised pattern of financial crime that a monitoring rule is designed to detect.

TCO
Total Cost of Ownership — the full cost of a platform including licence, implementation and tuning.

V

Velocity rule
A rule that flags an unusual number or value of transactions within a time window.

Every term here maps to a live capability.

Explore the full rule catalog at docs.korastratum.com and try any of these controls on your own traffic in the sandbox.