

Investigation Summary Full Report

Prepared by DataForensics



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# Terminology

**Crypto Tracing**: The process of tracking cryptocurrency transactions and ownership to uncover fraudulent activities or verify financial transactions.

**Transaction ID**: A unique identifier assigned to a transaction for tracking and verification purposes.

**Wallet Address:** A wallet address is a cryptographic key that identifies ownership of cryptocurrency. Only those who possess the corresponding private key can send cryptocurrency from one address to another.

**Blockchain**: A blockchain is a decentralized, digital ledger that records transactions across multiple computers in a way that ensures security and transparency. Each transaction is grouped into blocks and linked together, forming a chain, with every block being cryptographically secured.

**Exchange**: A platform where users buy, sell, or trade cryptocurrencies. Transactions involving exchanges are important to track in reports because they may convert cryptocurrencies into fiat currency, often linking digital assets to real-world financial systems

**Decentralized Exchange (DEX)**: A peer-to-peer platform for trading cryptocurrencies without a central authority. Unlike centralized exchanges, DEX transactions are harder to track because they often lack formal KYC procedures, making it more challenging to identify users.

**Forensic Analysis**: The process of examining and analyzing data to uncover evidence related to cyber crimes or fraud.

**Scam**: A fraudulent scheme designed to deceive individuals into providing money, personal information, or both, often under false pretenses.



# What is Crypto Tracing?

Crypto tracing refers to the process of following the **movement of cryptocurrency transactions** on **blockchain** networks to identify patterns, trace illicit activities, and uncover the origin or **destination of funds**. The primary goal of crypto tracing is to track and analyze digital assets that are often used for nefarious purposes, such as **money laundering**, **fraud**, **and financing illegal activities**. Crypto tracing could be used as a tool for **law enforcement**, **financial institutions**, **regulators**, and **private investigators**.

### **How Crypto Tracing Works:**

Crypto tracing leverages **blockchain analysis** tools such as **Chainalysis** to monitor and track cryptocurrency transactions. The process involves **analyzing public blockchain data**, including wallet addresses, transaction amounts, and timestamps, to identify suspicious patterns or traceable links to real-world entities. Chainalysis provides sophisticated algorithms and data visualization tools that help analysts map out complex transaction flows and identify potential links to illicit activities.

The process is typically broken down into the following steps:

- Transaction Analysis: Identifying patterns in transaction volumes and addresses.
- **Risk Assessment**: Determining whether a transaction or entity poses a risk of involvement in illegal activities.
- **Reporting**: Generating detailed reports on the findings, monitoring the ongoing transactions.

#### **Crypto Tracing Applications:**

Crypto tracing has broad applications across industries, including:

- Law Enforcement: Tracking criminal activities such as ransomware payments, money laundering, and dark web transactions.
- **Compliance**: Ensuring that businesses adhere to anti-money laundering (AML) regulations by monitoring cryptocurrency transactions.
- Fraud Detection: Identifying fraudulent transactions and the flow of stolen funds.



# Aim of Crypto Tracing

The aim of crypto tracing is to provide actionable insights into cryptocurrency transactions, enabling organizations to detect, investigate, and mitigate financial crimes involving digital assets. Crypto tracing aids in identifying illicit transactions and understanding criminal networks.

- **Identify Illicit Transactions**: Track down suspicious or illicit transactions that may indicate money laundering, terrorist financing, or other illegal activities.
- **Support Investigations**: Assist law enforcement agencies and private investigators in uncovering evidence and following the money trail in crypto-related cases.
- **Ensure Regulatory Compliance**: Help businesses meet their legal and regulatory obligations by detecting transactions that violate anti-money laundering (AML) rules.

#### **Overall Goal:**

The overall goal of crypto tracing is to enhance the transparency and security of cryptocurrency networks by identifying and mitigating risks associated with illegal financial activities. Through the use of tools like Chainalysis, organizations can uncover and respond to threats while adhering to legal and ethical standards.

## Benefits of Crypto Tracing:

- **Enhanced Transparency**: Blockchain technology allows for public and verifiable transaction tracking.
- **Compliance Support**: Helps institutions comply with regulatory requirements and avoid penalties.
- **Cost-Effective Investigations**: Leveraging blockchain data reduces the need for expensive undercover operations or surveillance.

Chainalysis offers an invaluable tools to streamline the crypto tracing process, helping organizations make informed decisions based on real-time blockchain analysis.



# Scope of investigation

This investigation focuses on tracing cryptocurrency wallet addresses by analyzing blockchain transactions.

The objective is to follow these transactions until they involve a wallet address controlled by a **Virtual Asset Service Provider (VASP)**, such as a cryptocurrency **exchange**.

#### **Transaction Analysis:**

Each transaction can involve multiple inputs and outputs. Using established tracing methodologies, DataForensics identifies the most relevant output to follow towards a VASP.

#### Role of VASPs:

Once a VASP is identified, **law enforcement can request KYC** (Know Your Customer) information from the exchange to help ascertain the identity and location of the involved individuals.

#### **Open-Source Intelligence (OSINT):**

When applicable, OSINT techniques are employed to gather additional intelligence, providing actionable insights to aid in the identification of suspects.



# Initial Transactions overview and analysis

\*Exchange rates are determined based on either the exchange rate obtained from the forensic tool used, which sources rates from a public API, or the documentation provided by the client.

\*\*All timestamps in this report are recorded in Coordinated Universal Time (UTC) to maintain consistency across all transaction records.

Trace	Date	Classification	Sending Address	Amount Sent	Transaction Hash	Amount Received	USD Value	Receiving Address
А	$\setminus$ /	Coinbase		1.85631 BTC	$\setminus$	1.85631 BTC	\$174,052.61	$\setminus$
В		Coinbase		2.68741 BTC		2.68740 BTC	\$257,254.20	
С	$\times$	Coinbase		4.01744 BTC		4.01742 BTC	\$388,629.95	
D		Coinbase		1.15553 BTC		1.15549 BTC	\$113,731.78	
E	$/  \setminus$	Coinbase		1.34086 BTC		1.34086 BTC	\$121,541.17	



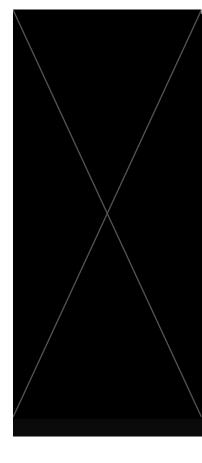
### Trace A - Overview

An initial amount of 1.85631 BTC was sent through 7 transactions and received by 2 addresses at OKX.

Trace Step	Date	Sending Address	Amount Sent	Transaction Hash	Amount Received	Receiving Address	VASP
A1	\ /	$\setminus$	1.8563144700 BTC		1.8563111400 BTC	$\setminus$	
A2			1.8563111400 BTC		0.350 BTC		OKX.com
А3			1.5062934400 BTC		0.350 BTC	$  \ \ \  $	OKX.com
A4	$\times$	X	1.1562757400 BTC	X	0.380 BTC	X	OKX.com
<b>A</b> 5			0.7762580400 BTC		0.370 BTC		OKX.com
A6			0.7762580400 BTC		0.4062403400 BTC		
A7	/	/	0.4062403400 BTC		0.4062258400 BTC	/	OKX.com

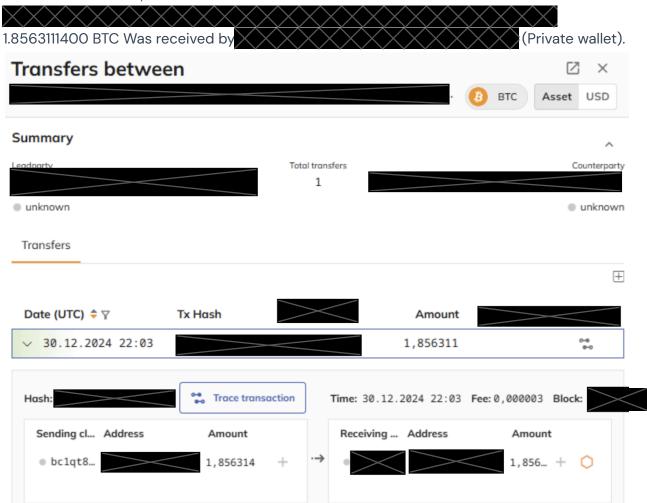
#### **Proof of Transaction**

provided a screenshot as evidence of the initial transaction.

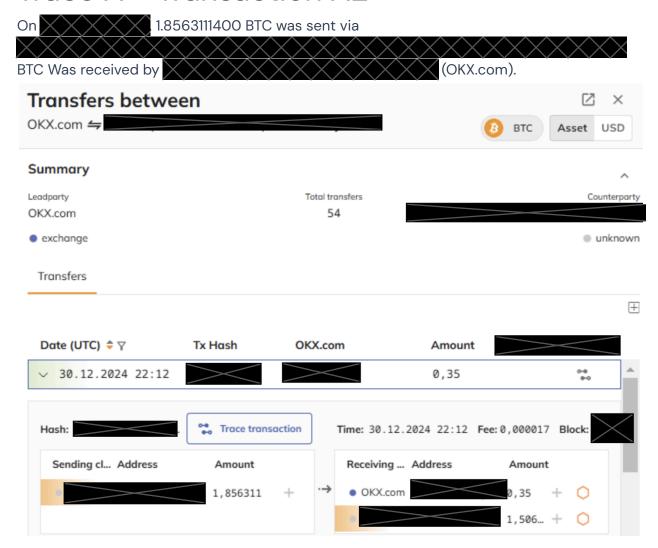




On 30.12.2024 22:03, 1.85631 BTC was sent via

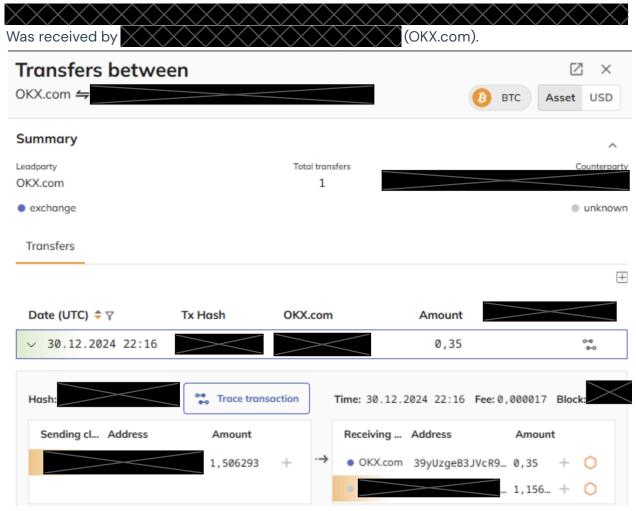






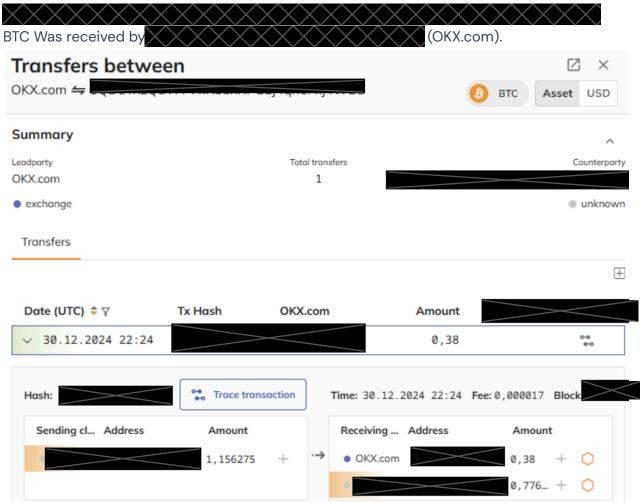


On 30.12.2024 22:16, 1.5062934400 BTC was sent via



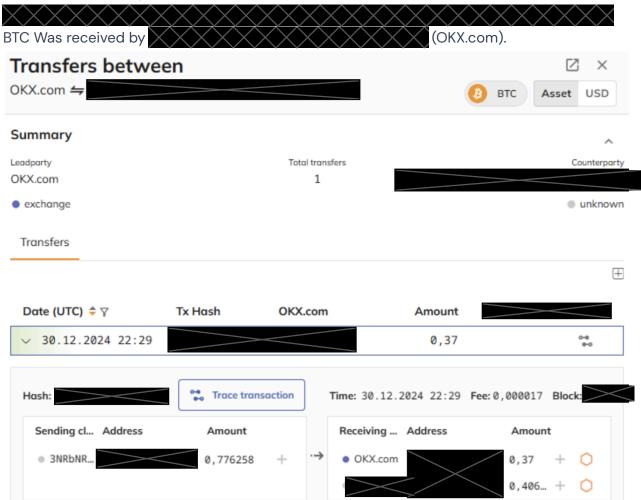


On 30.12.2024 22:24, 1.1562757400 BTC was sent via



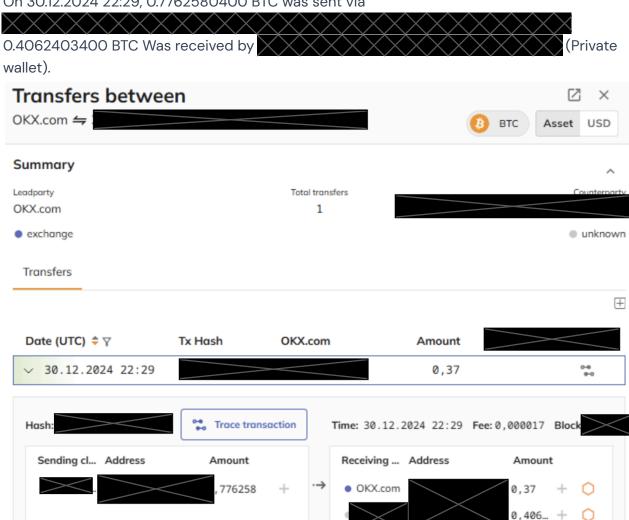


On 30.12.2024 22:29, 0.7762580400 BTC was sent via



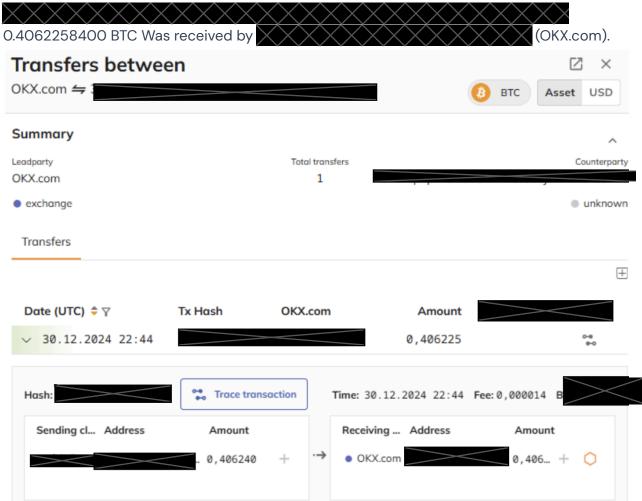


On 30.12.2024 22:29, 0.7762580400 BTC was sent via





On 30.12.2024 22:44, 0.4062403400 BTC was sent via





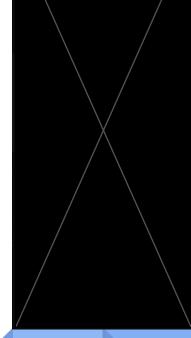
### Trace B - Overview

An initial amount of 2.687410130 BTC was sent through 10 transactions and received by two addresses at OKX.com.

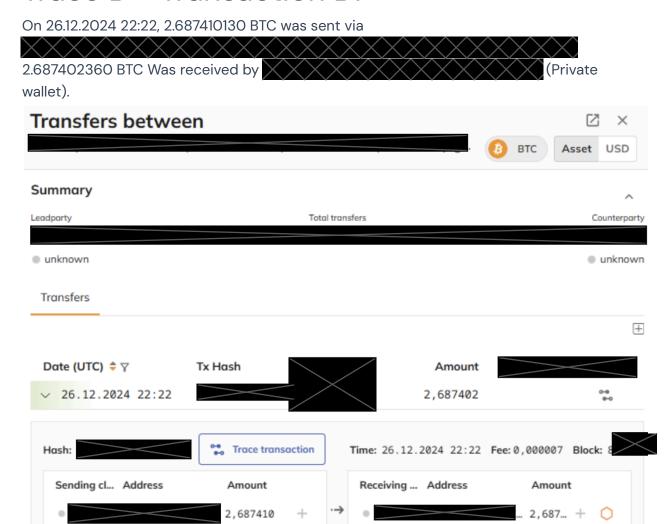
Trace Step	Date	Sending Address	Amount Sent	Transaction Hash	Amount Received	Receiving Address	VASP
B1	\ /	$\setminus$	2.687410130 BTC	\ /	2.687402360 BTC	$\setminus$	
B2			2.687402360 BTC		0.350 BTC		OKX.com
В3			2.337384660 BTC		0.350 BTC		OKX.com
В4			1.987366960 BTC		0.300 BTC		OKX.com
B5	$\bigvee$	$\bigvee$	1.687349260 BTC	$\bigvee$	0.300 BTC	$\bigvee$	OKX.com
В6	$\land$	$\wedge$	1.387331560 BTC	$\wedge$	0.380 BTC	$\wedge$	OKX.com
В7			1.007313860 BTC		0.380 BTC		OKX.com
В8			0.627296160 BTC		0.320 BTC	/ \	OKX.com
В9			0.627296160 BTC		0.307278460 BTC		
B10	/	/	0.307278460 BTC		0.307263960 BTC	/	OKX.com

#### **Proof of Transaction**



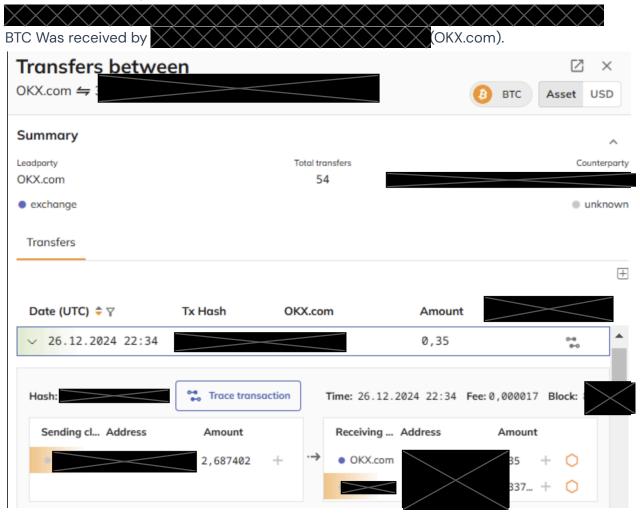






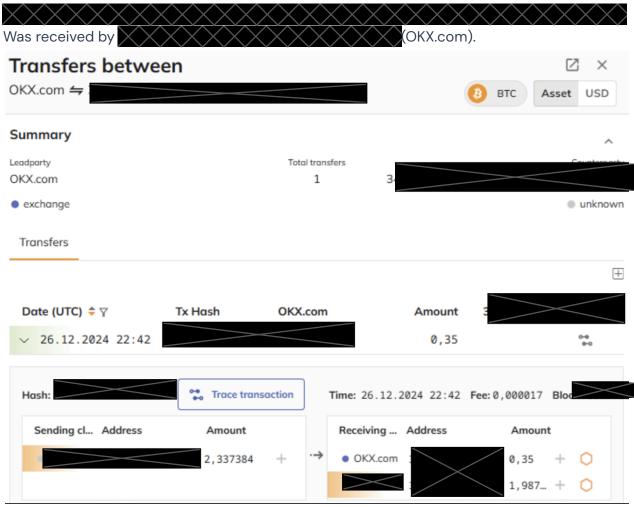


On 26.12.2024 22:34, 2.687402360 BTC was sent via



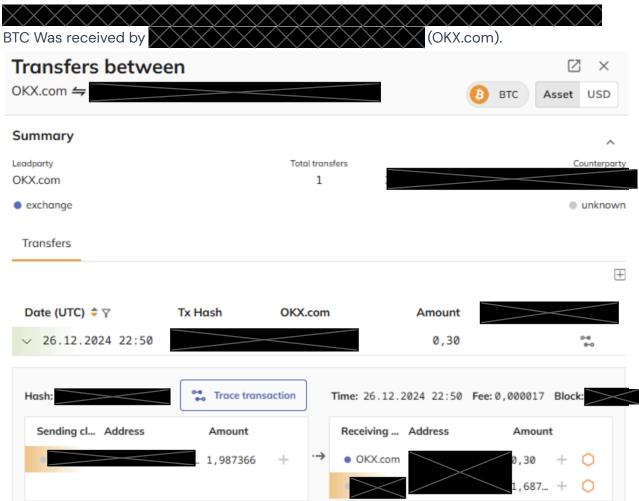


On 26.12.2024 22:42, 2.337384660 BTC was sent via



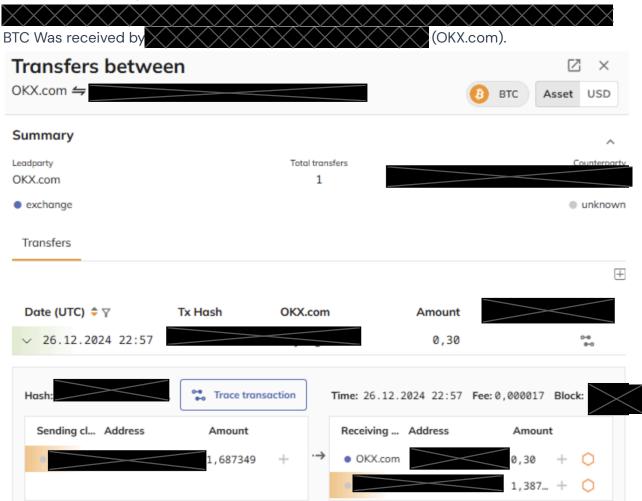


On 26.12.2024 22:50, 1.987366960 BTC was sent via



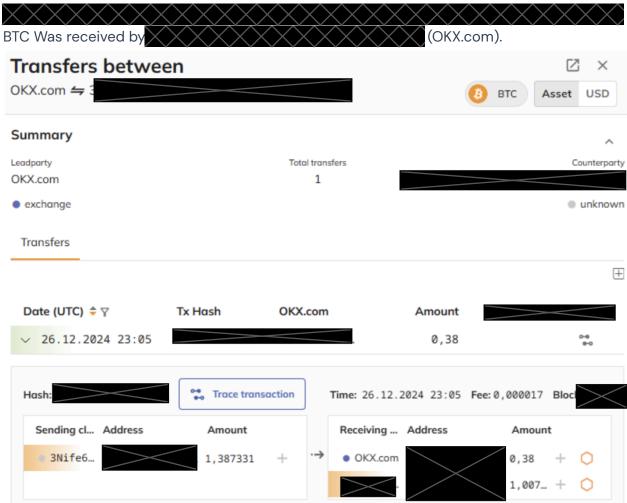


On 26.12.2024 22:57, 1.687349260 BTC was sent via



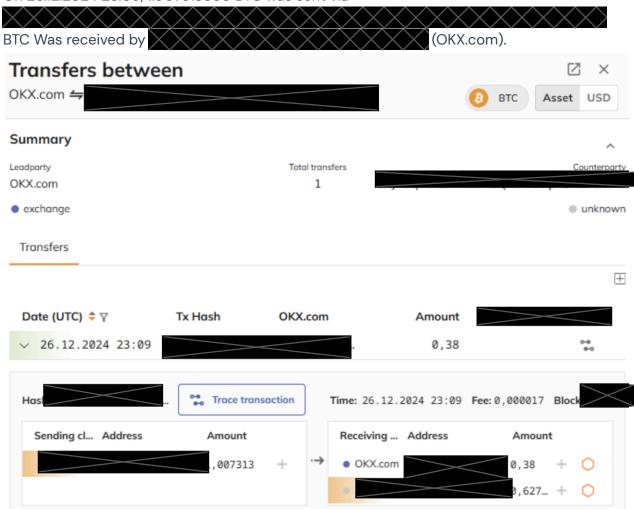


On 26.12.2024 23:05, 1.387331560 BTC was sent via



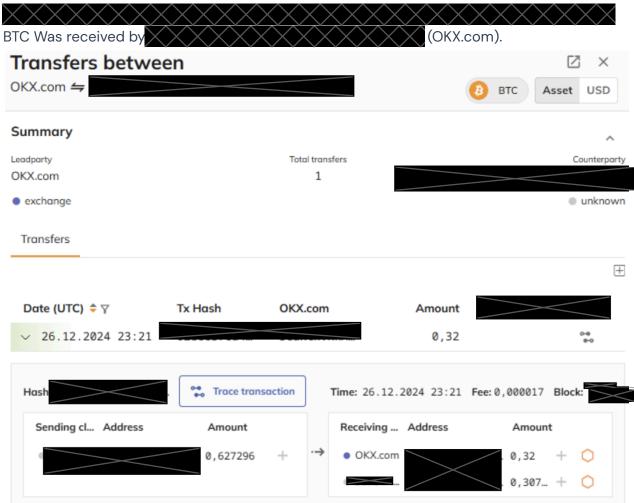


On 26.12.2024 23:09, 1.007313860 BTC was sent via



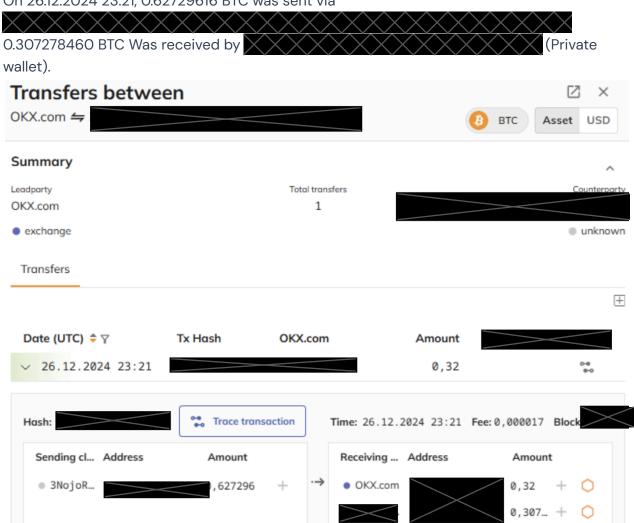


On 26.12.2024 23:21, 0.627296160 BTC was sent via



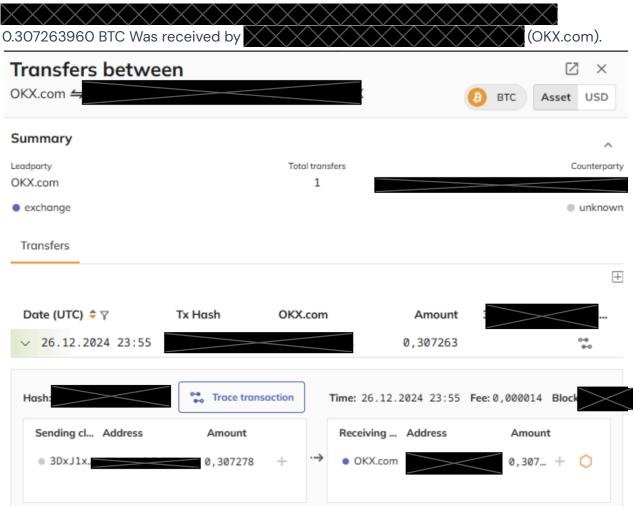


On 26.12.2024 23:21, 0.62729616 BTC was sent via





On 26.12.2024 23:55, 0.30727846 BTC was sent via





### Trace C - Overview

An initial amount of 4.01743962 BTC was sent through 13 transactions and received by two addresses at OXK.com.

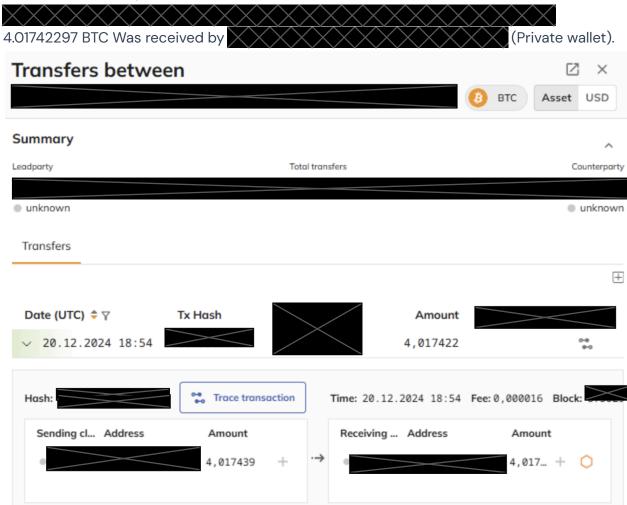
Trace Step	Date	Sending Address	Amount Sent	Transaction Hash	Amount Received	Receiving Address	VASP
C1		/	4.01743962 BTC	\ /	4.01742297 BTC	\ /	
C2			4.01742297 BTC		0.45 BTC		OXK.com
СЗ			3.56738757 BTC		0.35 BTC		OXK.com
C4			3.21735217 BTC		0.35 BTC		OXK.com
C5			2.86732562 BTC		0.38 BTC		OXK.com
C6	\		2.48729907 BTC		0.38 BTC	$\setminus /$	OXK.com
C7		X	2.10727252 BTC	X	O.4 BTC	X	OXK.com
C8			1.70724597 BTC		0.4 BTC	$/ \setminus$	OXK.com
C9			1.30721942 BTC		0.33 BTC		OXK.com
C10			0.97719287 BTC		0.32 BTC		OXK.com
C11			0.65716632 BTC		0.33 BTC		OXK.com
C12			0.65716632 BTC		0.32713977 BTC		
C13		\	0.32713977 BTC		0.32712237 BTC	/	OXK.com

#### **Proof of Transaction**

r provided a screenshot as evidence of the initial transaction.

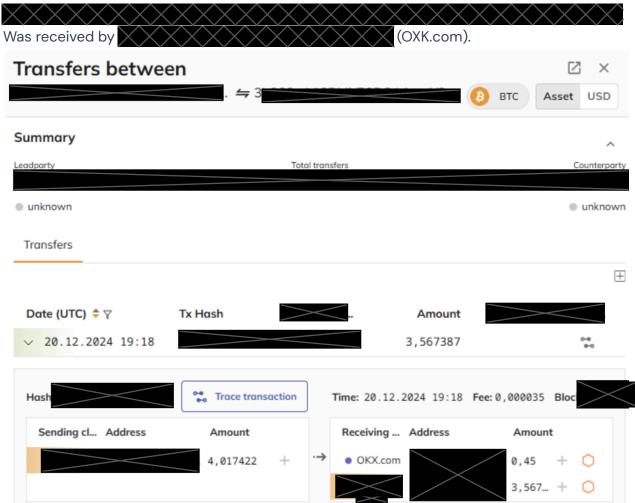


On 20.12.2024 18:54, 4.01743962 BTC was sent via



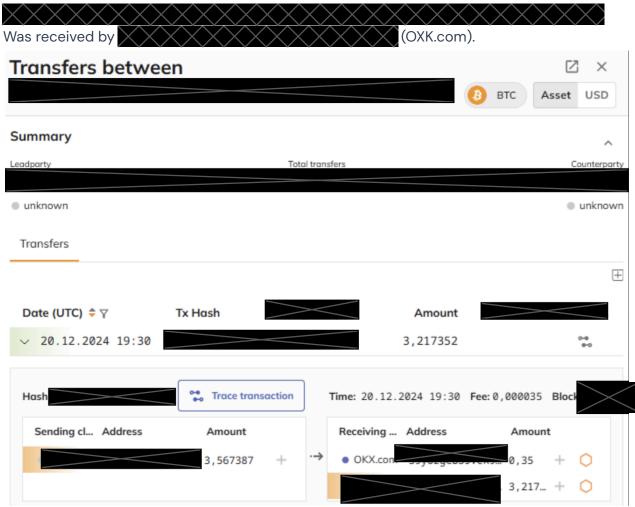


On 20.12.2024 19:18, 4.01742297 BTC was sent via



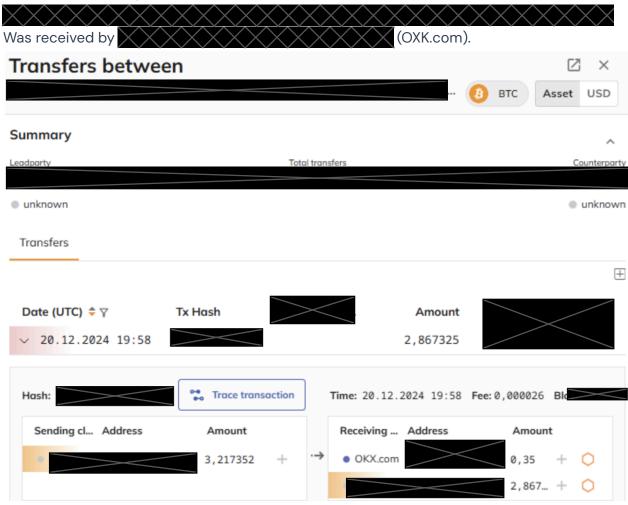


On 20.12.2024 19:30, 3.56738757 BTC was sent via



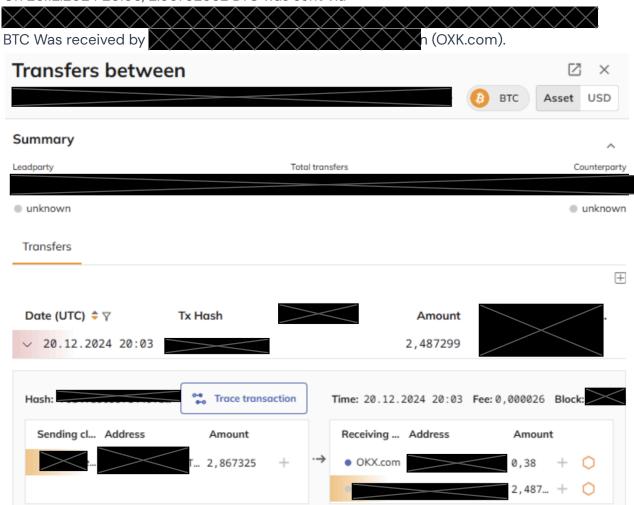


On 20.12.2024 19:58, 3.21735217 BTC was sent via



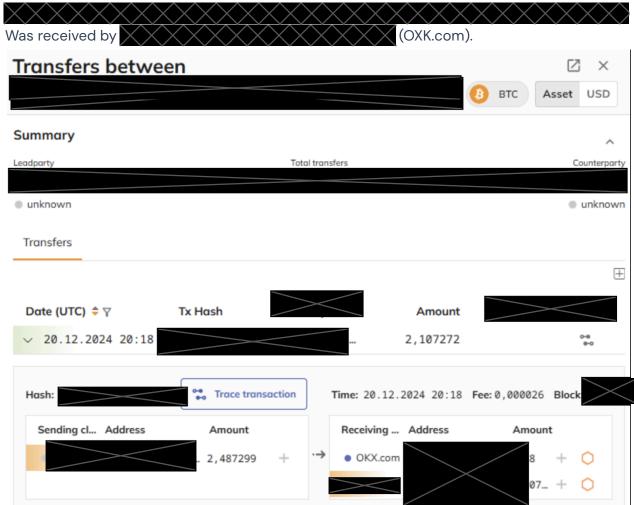


On 20.12.2024 20:03, 2.86732562 BTC was sent via



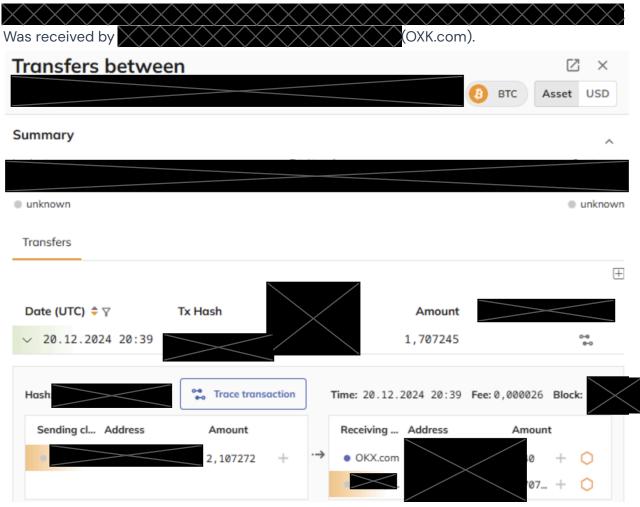


On 20.12.2024 20:18, 2.48729907 BTC was sent via



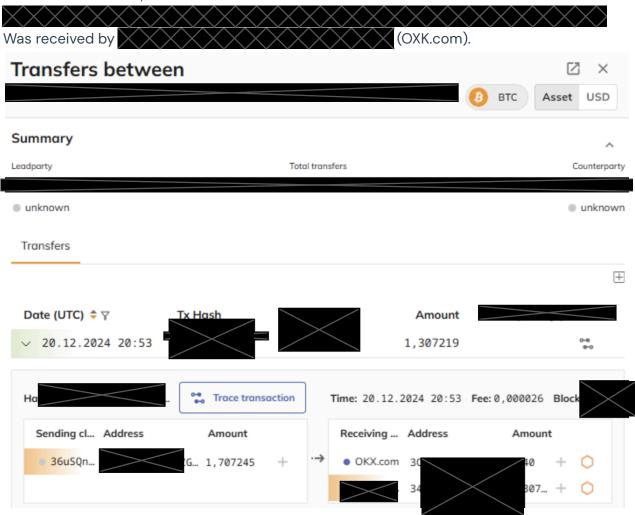


On 20.12.2024 20:39, 2.10727252 BTC was sent via



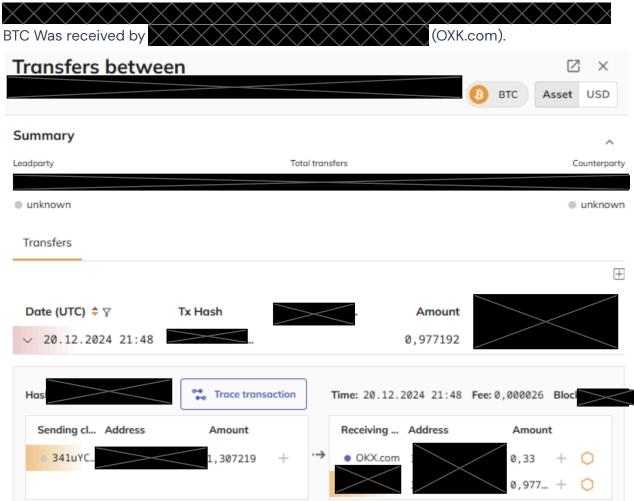


On 20.12.2024 20:53, 1.70724597 BTC was sent via



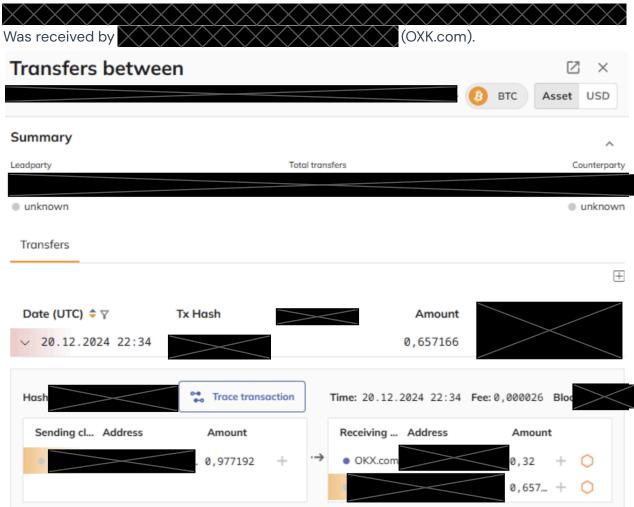


On 20.12.2024 21:48, 1.30721942 BTC was sent via



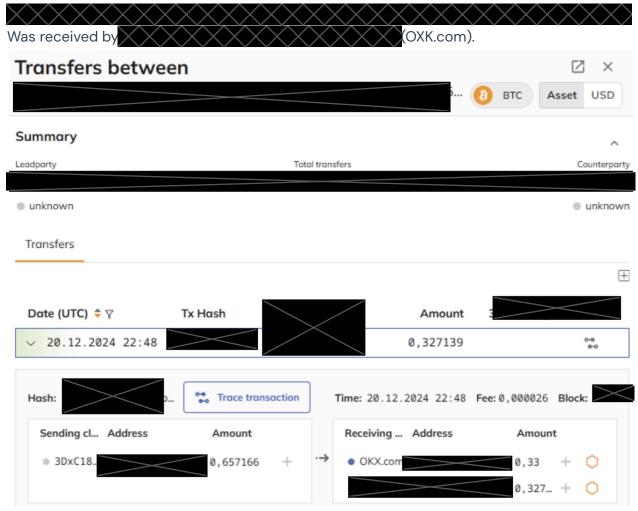


On 20.12.2024 22:34, 0.97719287 BTC was sent via



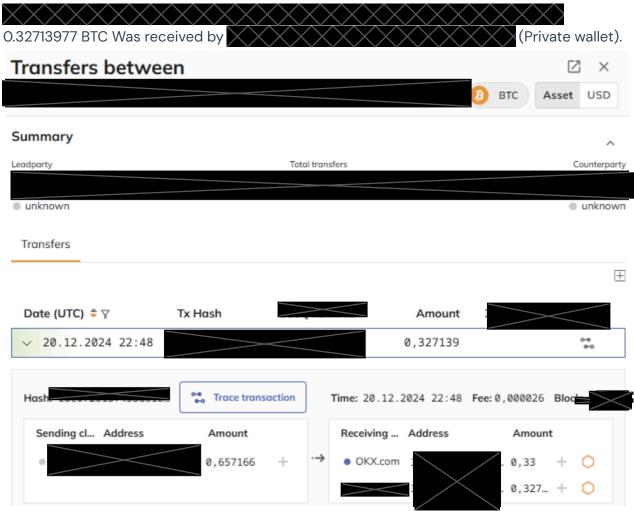


On 20.12.2024 22:48, 0.65716632 BTC was sent via



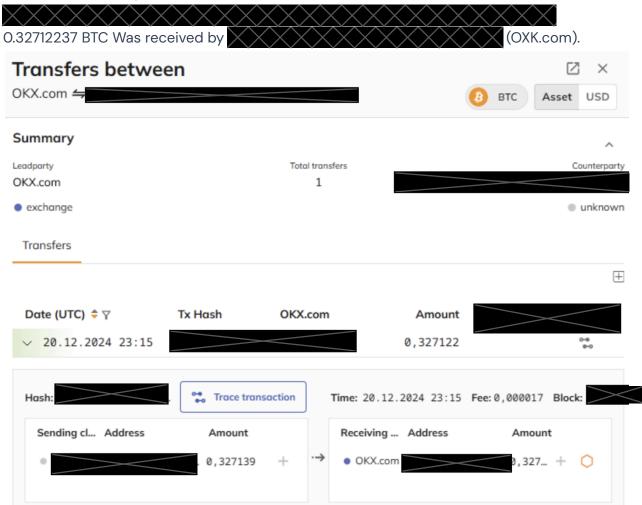


On 20.12.2024 22:48, 0.65716632 BTC was sent via





On 20.12.2024 23:15, 0.32713977 BTC was sent via





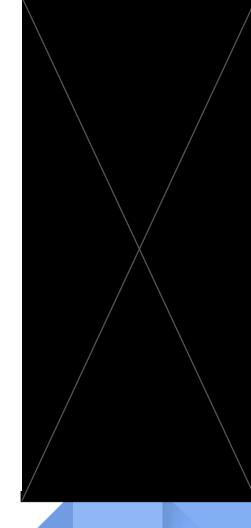
# Trace D - Overview

An initial amount of 1.15553263 BTC was sent through 5 transactions and received by a single address at OKX.com.

Trace Step	Date	Sending Address	Amount Sent	Transaction Hash	Amount Received	Receiving Address	VASP
D1	21.11.2024 18:59	$\setminus$	1.15553263 BTC		1.15549303 BTC	\ /	
D2	21.11.2024 19:33		1.15549303 BTC		0.28 BTC		OKX.com
D3	21.11.2024 19:45	X	0.8754771 BTC	$\times$	0.28 BTC	$\times$	OKX.com
D4	21.11.2024 20:10		0.59546294 BTC		0.28 BTC		OKX.com
D5	21.11.2024 20:14	/ \	0.31544878 BTC		0.31543718 BTC	/	OKX.com

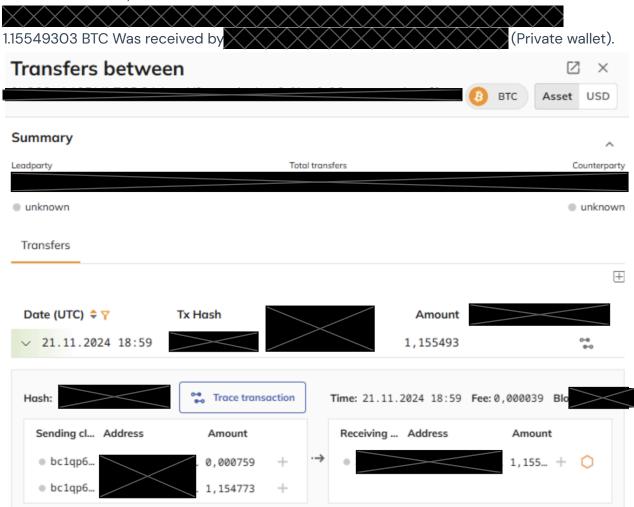
#### **Proof of Transaction**







On 21.11.2024 18:59, 1.15553263 BTC was sent via

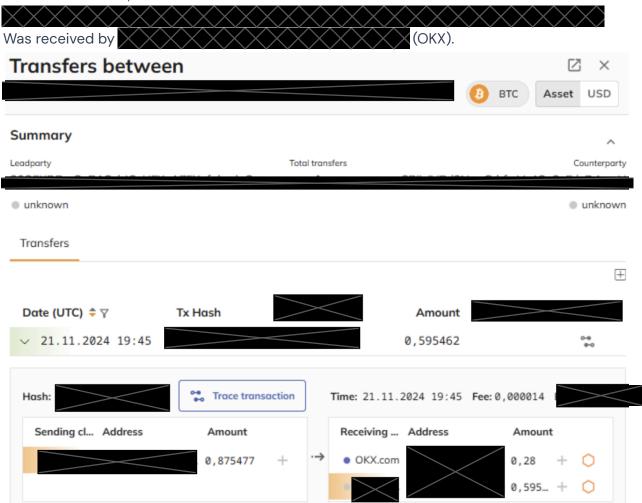




On 21.11.2024 19:33, 1.15549303 BTC was sent via BTC Was received by Transfers between Asset USD Summary unknown unknown Transfers +Date (UTC) ♦ 🎖 Tx Hash Amount 21.11.2024 19:33 0,875477 3PjjojVBd2... Trace transaction Hash: Time: 21.11.2024 19:33 Fee: 0,000015 Bloc Sending cl... Address Receiving ... Address Amount Amount OKX.com 33NKpnbWArXKLr... 0,28 1,155493

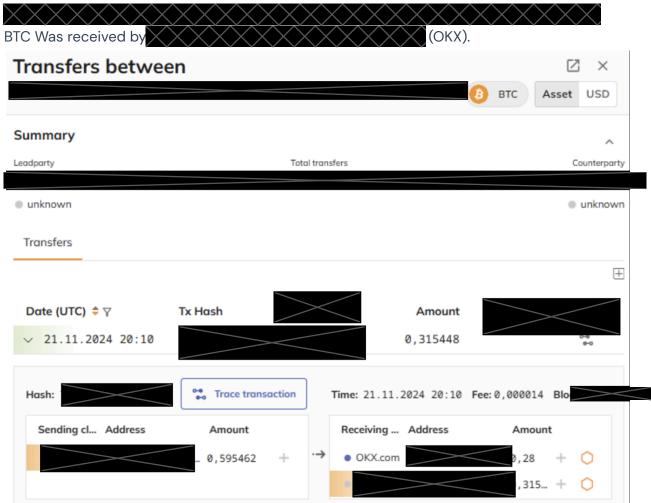


On 21.11.2024 19:45, 0.8754771 BTC was sent via



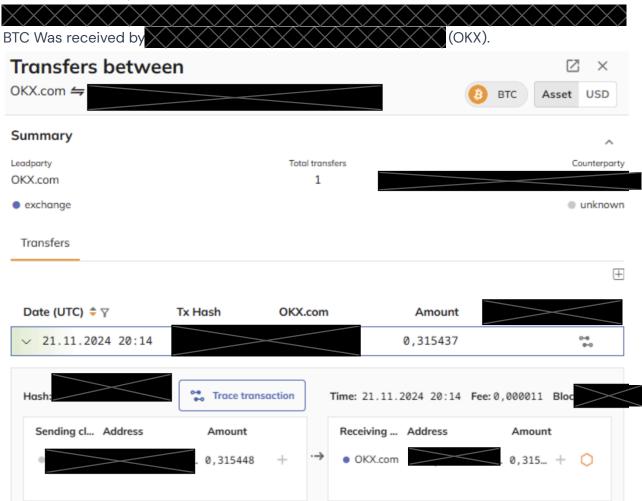


On 21.11.2024 20:10, 0.59546294 BTC was sent via





On 21.11.2024 20:14, 0.31544878 BTC was sent via



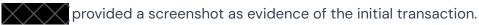


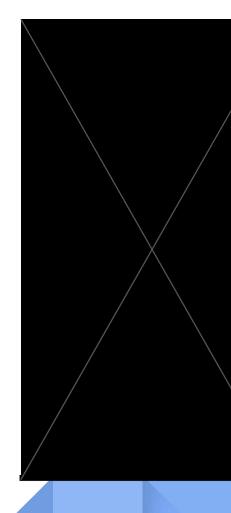
# Trace E - Overview

An initial amount of 1.34086091 BTC was sent through 4 transactions and received by a single address at OKX.

Trace Step	Date	Sending Address	Amount Sent	Transaction Hash	Amount Received	Receiving Address	VASP
E1	17.11.2024 00:28		1.34086091 BTC		1.34085647 BTC		
E2	17.11.2024 00:42		1.34085647 BTC		0.45 BTC		OKX.com
E3	17.11.2024 00:44		0.89085293 BTC		0.45 BTC	$\wedge$	OKX.com
E4	17.11.2024 00:47	/	0.44112495 BTC		0.44112023 BTC		OKX.com

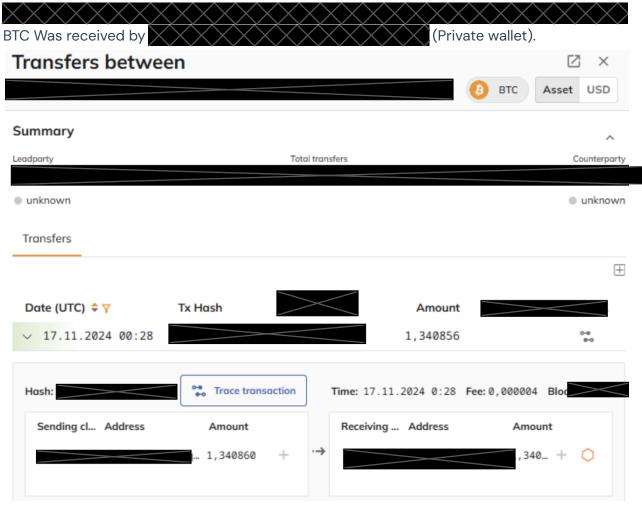
#### **Proof of Transaction**





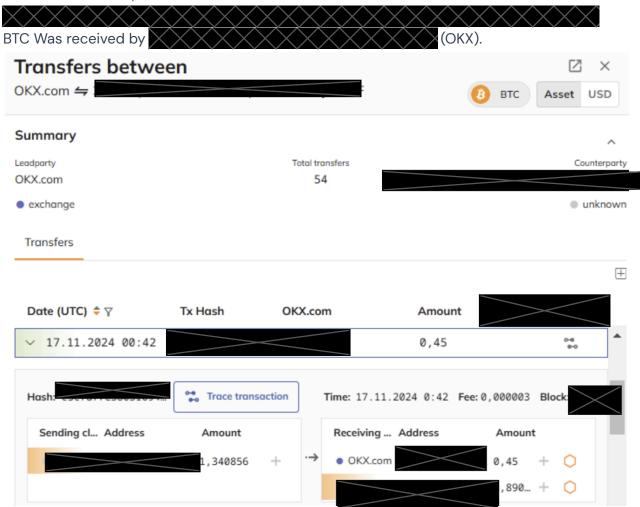


On 17.11.2024 00:28, 1.34086091 BTC was sent via



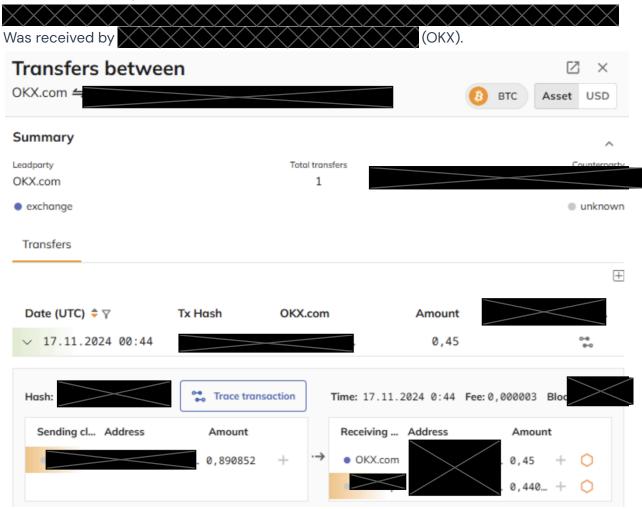


On 17.11.2024 00:42, 1.34085647 BTC was sent via



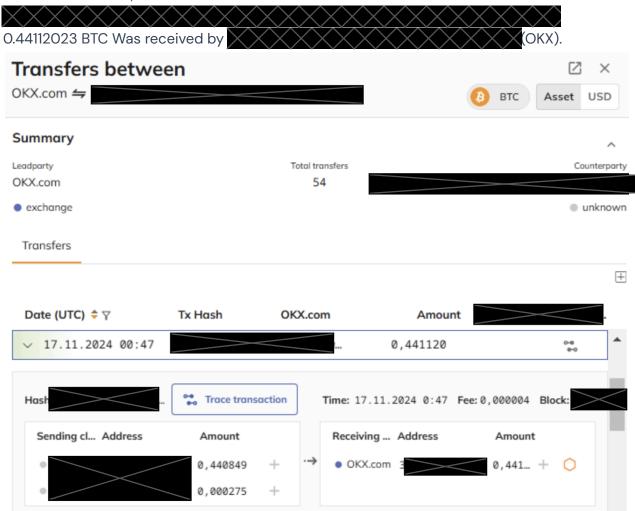


On 17.11.2024 00:44, 0.89085293 BTC was sent via





On 17.11.2024 00:47, 0.44112495 BTC was sent via





### Preventive measures

#### **Verify Before You Invest**

- Research the Platform: Before investing, conduct thorough research on the investment platform. Look for reviews, regulatory approvals, and whether the platform is registered with financial authorities. Be cautious of new platforms with little or no online presence.
- <u>Verify the Person's Identity:</u> If someone approaches you online with investment advice, verify their identity and credentials. Legitimate financial advisors will have a verifiable track record and will be registered with regulatory bodies.

#### Be Skeptical of High Return

- High Returns with Low Risk Don't Exist: Be wary of any investment promising high returns with minimal or no risk. Legitimate investments come with risks, and any claim otherwise is a red flag.
- <u>Consult a Financial Advisor:</u> Seek advice from a certified financial advisor before making investment decisions, especially if they involve significant amounts of money.

### **Avoid Upfront Fees for Withdrawal**

- <u>No Legitimate Investment Requires Fees for Withdrawal:</u> Be suspicious if an investment platform asks for fees to release your funds. Legitimate platforms typically do not require additional fees to process withdrawals.
- Question Additional Fees: If asked to pay extra fees, question their necessity and legitimacy. Contact regulatory bodies to verify if such fees are common or required.



#### **Use a Secure Payment Method**

- Avoid Cryptocurrency Payments to Unknown Entities: Cryptocurrency transactions
  are often irreversible, making it difficult to recover funds. Avoid using
  cryptocurrencies for investments unless you are confident in the platform's
  legitimacy.
- <u>Use Credit Cards for Protection:</u> When possible, use credit cards for transactions, as they offer more protection against fraud and allow for chargebacks in case of disputes.

### Be Wary of Social Media Interaction

- <u>Limit Sharing Personal Information:</u> Avoid sharing sensitive personal or financial information on social media. Scammers can use this information to gain trust or manipulate you.
- Report Suspicious Accounts: If you encounter a suspicious account or receive unsolicited investment offers, report the account to the social media platform and block them.



# Recommendations

To aid in the identification of suspects, the following actions involving **Virtual Asset Service Providers (VASPs)** require the **involvement of law enforcement or a court order**:

OKX.com (VASP)

The VASP (OKX) has the ability to manage the cryptocurrency assets associated with the beneficiary's account. Upon receiving a legal directive, the VASP (OKX) can freeze and seize the assets within the implicated account and provide Know Your Customer (KYC) information to assist law enforcement in identifying and locating the suspects.

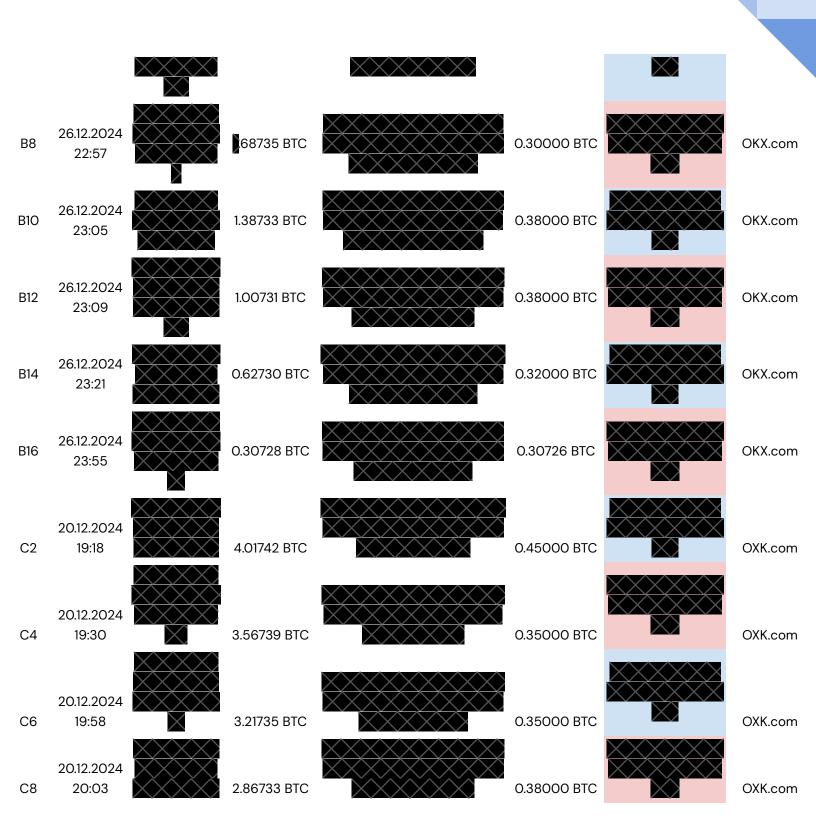


# Summary of VASP Wallets

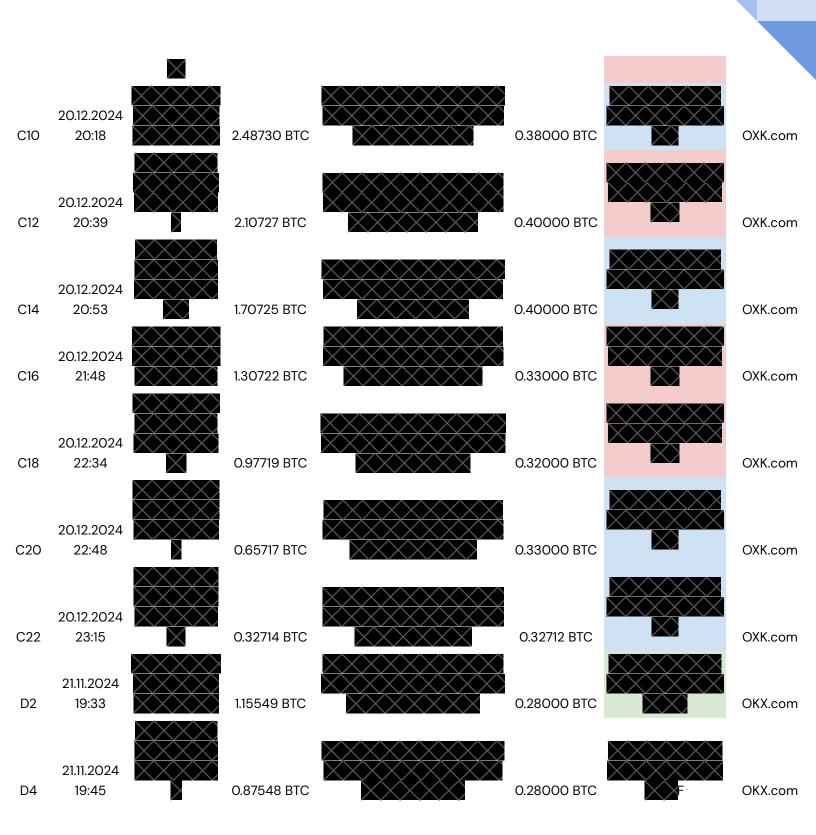
The chart below highlights key transfers made to Virtual Asset Service Providers (VASPs), showing the assets received by the suspected target, based on our forensic analysis.

Step	Date	Sending Address	Amount Sent	Transaction Hash	Amount Received	Receiving Address	VASP
A2	30.12.2024 22:12		1.85631 BTC		0.35000 BTC		OKX.com
A4	30.12.2024 22:16		1.50629 BTC		0.35000 BTC		OKX.com
A6	30.12.2024 22:24		1.15628 BTC		0.38000 BTC		OKX.com
A8	30.12.2024 22:29		0.77626 BTC		0.37000 BTC		OKX.com
A10	30.12.2024 22:44	BEe	0.40624 BTC		0.40623 BTC		OKX.com
B2	26.12.2024 22:34		2.68740 BTC		0.35000 BTC		OKX.com
В4	26.12.2024 22:42		2.33738 BTC		0.35000 BTC		OKX.com
В6	26.12.2024 22:50		1.98737 BTC		0.30000 BTC		OKX.com

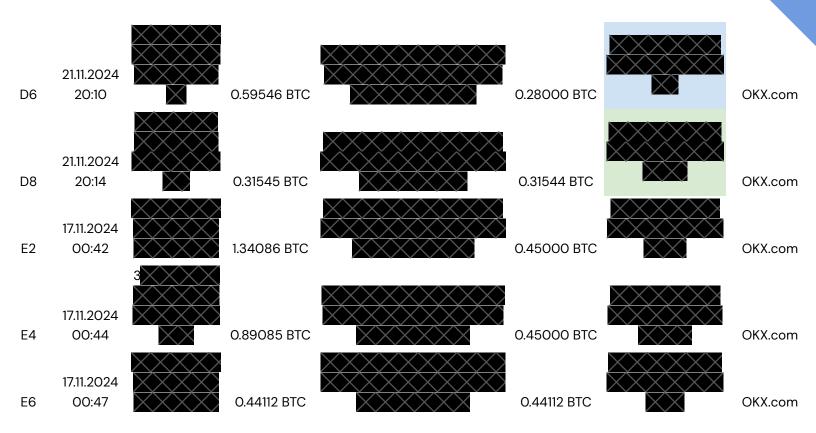


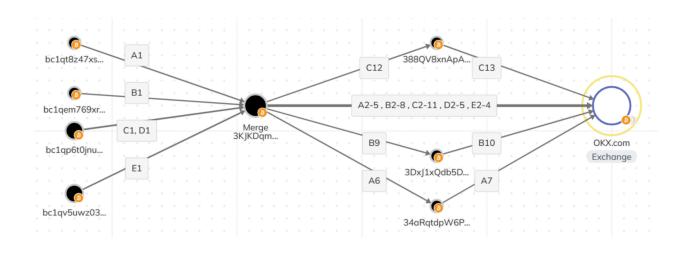














# **Confidential note**

All information contained in this report is confidential and may not be disclosed without prior written authorization, except when shared by law enforcement as part of an investigation.

