

# Child sexual exploitation online investigation

Empowering officers to thoroughly investigate more cases faster for better outcomes



Unique, explainable technology to find and prioritize risk



System-level rules that allow investigators to prioritize reports by searching for indications of risk



Rules to surface data that can be defined and refined by investigators



Greater accuracy and efficiency to manage higher volumes of cases at scale from start to finish



#### The Issue

Incidences of child sexual exploitation have never been higher. For example, in 2023, there were more than **35.9 million reports** of suspected child sexual abuse material (CSAM) shared over social media globally. In addition, online sexual exploitation is on the rise.

Investigators at law enforcement agencies are focused on ensuring safety and protection from sexual predators, but they can easily be overwhelmed by the volume of reports. This is partly because social media companies are increasingly compliant with reporting legislation; the more incidences they find and report, the higher the number of children that can potentially be saved.

However, the complexity and volume of these reports, coupled with the traumatic nature of the material contained in them, create a high-pressure working environment. Officers know that investigative delays create more opportunities for greater harm. With the clock ticking on every case, they must complete thorough investigations as quickly and efficiently as possible.

What's needed is a solution to support and enhance officers' ability to investigate cases quickly, identify risks and opportunities in information, and reinforce the entire process to facilitate quick, efficient responses. To ensure all work streams and data are conflicted, efficiencies and open avenues of inquiry to find offenders and safeguard children quickly must be created.

## The Challenge

- Prioritizing and managing high volumes of cases to find and protect children from sexual abuse.
- Finding and analyzing complex, high-volume data and conducting extensive investigative research.
- Deconflicting data against historical cases creates linked cases across multiple workstreams, including CyberTip, P2P, Undercoveronline and dark web investigations.
- Dealing with the effects of investigative officers' heavy exposure to child sexual abuse material.

### Our Approach

Child exploitation reports can outpace law enforcement resources, making it difficult to efficiently analyze volumes of data, turn it into actionable insights and stop crimes. With SAS solutions, here is how we make data power investigations:

- Control. Data is organized instantaneously upon ingestion.
   Search with free text and optimize investigations with IP-specific analytics. Chat log viewer displays individual exchanges and mitigates harmful exposures.
- Visualize. Gaps, opportunities and substantiation of evidence are revealed through multiple visualizations. Rule-based criteria connections made between data points such as IP, email and usernames are attached to the investigation.
- Streamline. Gain immediate insights concerning the nature, complexity and extent of risk. Accurately route cases to law enforcement agencies with embedded geographic and ownership. Manage volume reports and backlog through bespoke categorization and ability to allocate investigations according to skills and experience of resources. Conduct investigations across multiple workstreams such as CyberTip, peer-to-peer livestream and dark web.
- Automate. Autopopulate subpoenas, preservation orders, warrants and ISP/CSP requests.
- Report and strategize. Report volume and status of all investigations. Extract and analyze common entities and patterns to direct investigative action, translate preventative messaging and disrupt real-time victimization.

#### The SAS Difference

SAS is committed to using its cutting-edge solutions to empower investigators of child sexual exploitation to do more in less time and with less stress and trauma so that more children are found and protected faster. Our solutions help investigators:

- Find and search data. With SAS, investigators can find 73% more intelligence within complex reports and external and internal data, resulting in more accurate risk assessments while investigators maintain complete control of the data.
- **Support their well-being.** SAS can reduce exposures to CSAM by up to 75%.
- Maximize effectiveness. SAS provides workflow support to help you maintain and control workloads across departments for more effective investigation management. Investigators can also proactively identify and prioritize the highest-ranking offenders.
- Be more proactive. SAS identifies bottlenecks so you can see where new efficiencies can be created.
- **Provide insight.** SAS helps with scaling the problem across all investigation types.
- Improve and refine processes. SAS' feedback loop capability for other forces conducting action and investigation to enrich future investigations.
- Centralized information. SAS provides a central environment where all investigations and data points can be deconflicted, managed and monitored with full statistical reporting and auditing.

# CHILD SEXUAL EXPLOITATION IS ON THE RISE



82% rise in online grooming crimes against children in the last five years\*



1 in 4 victims were age 13 or younger when threatened\*\*



2 in 3 were girls threatened before the age of 16\*\*

\*Online Grooming Crimes Have Risen by More Than 82% in Five Years | NSPCC 2023

\*\*Research Insights: Grooming and Sextortion | Thorn



