

Deck Check™ - An Introduction

Supergame Technologies, 

Online poker is the game of poker played over the Internet. It has been partly responsible for a dramatic increase in the number of poker players worldwide. Christiansen Capital Advisors stated online poker revenues grew from \$82.7 million in 2001 to \$2.4 billion in 2005, while a survey carried out by DrKW and Global Betting and Gaming Consultants asserted online poker revenues in 2004 were at \$1.4bn. [Source: Wikipedia http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Online_poker]

Online poker is infested with fraudulent sites. There are allegations of non-random card dealing, possibly to favour house-employed players or “bots” (poker software disguised as human opponent), or to give multiple players good hands thus increasing the bets and the rake, or simply to prevent new players from losing so quickly that they become discouraged. Insider cheating can occur when a person with trusted access to the system uses his position to play poker himself with an unfair advantage.

Recently Absolute Poker acknowledged that its integrity had been breached by an employee, who had been able to play at play at high stakes while viewing his opponent’s hidden “hole” cards. Even UltimateBet became embroiled in a similar scandal, with former employee accused of using software backdoor to see opponents’ cards.

There are many ways by which the players can lose money because their opponents are not playing a fair game. SuperGames has been researching ways to assure the players that the poker site they are playing on is fair in the way cards are dealt and shuffled. Most important is that the method should not depend on “assumptions” and should be scientifically provable to be fair.

Most of the sites claim that they use RNG to shuffle cards. Online (software) shuffling is always better than the hand shuffling if done properly. For a player there is no way to figure out how good the shuffling is. The sites go on to claim that if the shuffling was not good the games can be turned against the house if the shuffling is biased and that it is in the best interest of poker rooms to make the random number generator as unbiased as possible. How will the player know that the dealing is fair, that the cards are not manipulated when they are dealt? Usually it is easy to implement a random number generator which is unbiased; there are lots of them easily available and implementable. The buck does not stop here, someone inside can always have access to the cards being dealt or can “see” the hole cards. Or worst the site may be manipulating the dealing to favour the “bots”.

The auditors may audit sites and game play but that too takes place in a controlled environment. It is not possible to audit all the games. Moreover, since poker sites require frequent updates and patches it is really difficult to say that the audited software has not been manipulated over time. Most of the official audits only check

RNG, shuffling and some standard components which still leave a wide gap open for insiders and outsider to manipulate. This is proven by the fact that even audited sites like the one mentioned above have been involved in frauds. It is big relief that such things can be caught by analyzing the game plays.

SuperGame has devised an innovative technology which will insure the RNG's fairness, dealing fairness and will include the players in the process. This will ensure that each game which the players play is fair. The validations are instant and to the players satisfaction because that is what counts in bringing more players to the site. The proprietary technology is called "Deck Check" and will involve the players in a way that they satisfy themselves with the game fairness. The technology will involve a "very reliable (proven) third party" in a way to ensure that the game is completely fair. The inclusion of third party is unavoidable as any process completely controlled by the site can always be manipulated. For example several poker sites claim that they transmit photograph of the game play but there is no way to ensure that the feeds are not manipulated. SuperGame's DeckCheck is a innovative technology which will put all these speculation to rest.

For more details contact us at info@supergameasia.com for more info.