

**Scam alert in the
import-export
trade - a deal too
good to be true**

**Beware of email enquiries from people
with no email signature or company
information.**

Such a person contacted me recently. They asked me for a quote on for a quantity of basalt materials. From the email I judged

they had little experience selecting and dealing with these materials.

I quoted them a price which they quickly accepted. No negotiation on the price? (a warning signal) Too easy! Then they sent me a sales contract with a promise of a large order for US\$442,500 with favourable payment terms.

One item of concern:

"... our general manager would like to invite you to visit us with the samples in Zhuhai, China. Then we will test the samples and discuss the cooperation. Then we can sign the formal contract as well as discussing issues about the next order and long-term cooperation plan."

I offered to send them a sample by express delivery but this offer was refused (that's unusual) -- I must visit in person.

Now I'm asked by an unknown person to visit them in China to sign the contract with some unknown company. If I was fool enough to agree I would probably end up being kidnapped and held for a ransom, who knows.

The communication ended here. I warn you about receiving such an email. Be very careful. Often it's hard to judge genuine enquires. Sometimes it's a waste of time. In this case it was, but not if you heed my warning.

Kind regards,

Lance Brown (Manager)

Lance Brown Import-Export

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[Basalt materials](#)