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Trading Standards Advice and Education
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www.tradingstandards.gov.uk/kent

Message

Local businesses are being warned to be aware of a scam operated by a company based in Spain. Businesses are contacted via an unsolicited mail shot asking them to complete a form in order to be included in their business directory. What businesses don't realise is that they are entering into a contract with associated costs of around 1000 Euros. They then receive threatening demands for payment.

Trading Standards advise businesses to be wary of offers which appear to be free, they usually come with a catch. Ask yourself why a business from outside the UK is interested in running a local business directory.

If you think you have been caught by such a scam, you can report the matter to European Advertising Standards Alliance (EASA), who is based in Brussels Rue de la Pepiniere/Boomkweker/straat 10-10a , B-1000 Brussels , Belgium Tel No 0322 5137806 Fax No 0322 5132661 Email: info@easa-alliance.org

Further advice can also be obtained by Visiting the [Consumer Direct](#) website or ringing them on 08454 040506

Expiry Date

9th February 2011

The normal period for validity of messages will be seven days

Distribution

Messages are not confidential and can be used for public distribution

Signed

Caroline Elliott

Date

2/2/11