



## Fraudulent Shipping Website Scam

Advance fee fraudsters operating from Amsterdam and Rotterdam have created copies of the websites of express transportation company **DHL and Lufthansa Cargo** to lure victims into paying transportation and advance fees for used motorcycles and cars that are never delivered.

Many people are familiar with the old style 419 scam where an email claims to come from a person needing to transfer large sums of money out of the country. The scammers seem to have discovered a new way of making a quick buck.

The scammers offer a used Suzuki Katana GSX-600 or a BMZ Z3 Roadster at sites such as Car.com or Autotrader.com for next to nothing. After the buyer responds, they are usually told that the cars are currently in Spain or another European country and that they will have to pay transportation costs.

The scammers then recommend the use of escrow services with slick websites that appear legitimate. Some fake escrows even warn you about internet fraud, or link to the Internet Fraud Complaint Center. A Dutch scam fighter, Ultrascan Advanced Global Investigations, has issued warnings about fake sites promoting *DHL Shippers and Lufthansa Worldwide Cargo*, as opposed to the real companies, DHL Worldwide Express and Lufthansa Cargo. Sites such as Carbuyingtips.com claim to have shut down over 600 fake escrow sites.

Please beware of such scams, and if you become a victim, immediately contact your local law enforcement, US Postal Inspector, or FBI. Also, report the incident to the Internet Crime Complaint Center at [www.ic3.gov/complaint](http://www.ic3.gov/complaint).

*Source: CUNA Mutual report, December 2006*