MERUGO
TRADEX

SOURCE WELL. BUILD WITH CONFIDENCE.

Natural Stone Sourcing & Quality Inspection Process

A sourcing partner from material selection to shipment documentation.

For international buyers, importers, contractors and distributors.

MATERIAL KNOWLEDGE / QUALITY CONTROL / EXPORT COORDINATION

01 / ABOUT MERUGO TRADEX

Your partner at source

A coordinated approach to natural stone procurement, built around the buyer's specification.

Who we are

Merugo Tradex is a natural stone trading and sourcing company. We connect buyer requirements with suitable materials and supply partners, coordinating selection, quality inspection, packing and shipment preparation.

More than a trading transaction

Our role is to bring structure to procurement: clarify the specification, align suppliers to the approved sample, monitor production and share evidence before dispatch. Buyers gain a point of coordination across the sourcing journey.



Who we support

Importers and distributors seeking repeat supply.

Contractors planning project quantities and phased deliveries.

International buyers sourcing a defined material, finish or application.

Countries served

USA, UK, Europe, Australia (Sourcing support for overseas buyers)

02 / PROCESS AT A GLANCE

One connected sourcing journey

Eight stages, with clear decisions and evidence at each handover.

01 Enquiry

Application, quantity, dimensions, finish and delivery needs.

02 Material selection

Material options and commercial suitability.

03 Vendor shortlisting

Source capability, capacity and quotation comparison.

04 Sampling

Approve representative colour, finish and variation.

05 Inspection

Check material and production against the agreed specification.

06 Stuffing

Verify packing, loading sequence and securing.

07 Shipping

Coordinate booking and dispatch under agreed terms.

08 Documentation

Compile and cross-check the shipment document set.

03 / MATERIAL RANGE

Natural stone, selected for purpose

Indicative sourcing range. Material, finish and format availability are confirmed for each enquiry.

Material	Typical applications	Selection considerations
Granite	Countertops, flooring, external paving	Assess mineral pattern, finish, edge detail and application suitability.
Marble	Interior flooring, walls, feature surfaces	Review veining, repairs and care expectations; acidic exposure can affect the surface.
Sandstone	Landscaping, paving, external features	Check bedding, thickness variation and exposure suitability.
Slate	Flooring, wall cladding, landscaping	Confirm cleft texture, calibration and splitting characteristics.
Limestone	Flooring, cladding, architectural details	Review porosity, finish and suitability for the intended environment.
Quartzite	Feature walls, countertops, paving	Confirm material identity, fabrication needs and batch characteristics.

Finish options

Polished - reflective surface. Honed - smooth, low sheen. Flamed - heat-textured surface on suitable stone. Brushed - textured, softened feel. Tumbled - softened edges and aged appearance.

> **Specify before ordering**
>
> Not every finish suits every stone. Confirm the finish on a physical sample, including slip performance where required, maintenance and intended exposure.

04 / SELECTION SUPPORT

From application to material choice

A successful selection balances appearance, performance, commercial needs and dependable supply.

Application	What we help define
Flooring	Traffic, wet or dry use, slip requirements, tile dimensions, calibration and maintenance.
Cladding	Panel sizes, thickness, weight, fixing approach and exposure; coordinate technical requirements with the project designer.
Countertops	Slab dimensions, usable yield, cut-outs, edge profile, veining layout and fabrication requirements.
Landscaping	Weather exposure, drainage, paving thickness, texture, bedding and expected loading.

Balance the complete cost

Compare material price alongside cutting yield, finishing, packing, inland transport and the agreed delivery terms. A lower unit price may create higher project cost if the usable yield or consistency is poor.

Define acceptable variation

Use representative samples and batch images to agree the colour range and natural pattern. Identify areas where blending is acceptable and areas where closer matching is needed.

> **Selection output**
>
> A buyer-approved material reference, finish sample, dimensions, tolerance schedule, quantity and availability plan. Reserve the relevant batch where agreed.

05 / VENDOR MANAGEMENT

A disciplined supplier shortlist

The right source must match the material, production requirement and delivery programme.

Identify suitable quarries and factories

Match material origin and processing capability to the buyer's requirement. Review source consistency, product range, export experience and traceability of the proposed batch.

Audit capability and capacity

Review cutting and finishing equipment, quality controls, packing arrangements and production flow. Check available stock, planned output and realistic lead times for the order.

Compare and negotiate

Compare like-for-like quotations against the same specification. Clarify yield, finish, tolerances, packing, replacement arrangements and delivery terms before price negotiation.

Track supplier performance

Monitor inspection results, defect trends, quantity accuracy, delivery reliability and responsiveness. Use order outcomes to inform repeat sourcing and corrective action.

> **Shortlist decision**
>
> Document the preferred supplier, alternative source, capacity assessment, commercial assumptions and any issues to resolve before order confirmation.

06 / QUALITY CONTROL - RAW BLOCKS & SLABS

Inspect the starting material

Early checks help identify issues before cutting, finishing or allocating material to an order.



Block assessment

Review visible fractures, fissures, mineral concentrations, colour distribution and block dimensions. Record source and block identification, then flag areas that may affect cutting yield or appearance.

Slab assessment

Check slab identification, dimensions, thickness and usable area. Examine both faces where accessible for cracks, resin or mesh treatments, filling, veining, edge damage and surface condition.

> **Evidence & decision**
>
> Record photographs with batch or slab references. Segregate unsuitable material and obtain buyer approval for any visible repair or appearance deviation. Hidden internal conditions may only become apparent during processing.

07 / QUALITY CONTROL - IN-PROCESS INSPECTION

Control quality during production

Confirm the specification at production milestones, while corrections are still practical.



First-piece approval

Compare the first produced piece with the approved sample and drawing. Confirm size, thickness, finish and edge profile before releasing the remaining batch.

Keep production references linked to the source batch and purchase order.

Cutting and calibration

Check length, width, diagonals or squareness where relevant, and thickness at multiple points. Inspect cut edges and detect chips, bowing or damage introduced during handling.

Finishing and batch consistency

Inspect under consistent lighting. Compare texture or sheen, shade range, filled areas and surface marks against the approved reference. Blend or segregate pieces according to the agreed layout needs.

> **Corrective action loop**
>
> Identify the affected quantity, hold the batch, agree rework or replacement, and re-inspect. Record the issue and closure evidence before progressing to packing.

08 / QUALITY CONTROL - FINAL RELEASE

Pre-shipment inspection checklist

Sample template. Record actual results against the purchase order and buyer-approved specification.

ORDER / PO: _____ MATERIAL: _____ BATCH: _____

DATE: _____ INSPECTOR: _____ QUANTITY CHECKED: _____

Checkpoint	Acceptance reference / method	Result*
Dimensions	Measure length, width and squareness against the approved drawing.	_____
Thickness tolerance	Measure at agreed points; use the tolerance stated in the order.	_____
Surface finish	Compare sheen or texture with the approved physical sample.	_____
Colour / shade	Check within the approved range; review batch blending.	_____
Cracks / fissures	Check structural concerns and agreed appearance limits; isolate suspect pieces.	_____
Veining / repairs	Review pattern, resin, mesh and filling against approved references.	_____
Edge quality	Check chips, straightness, profile and corner condition.	_____
Water absorption	Review the agreed laboratory report where specified; visual inspection is insufficient.	_____
Packing / quantity	Verify count, markings, protection, crate condition and packing list.	_____

*Enter PASS / HOLD / FAIL and reference any supporting measurement or photo.

Release record

Define the sampling plan and acceptance limits before inspection. Record defects, affected quantity, corrective action and re-inspection results. Release only after agreed issues are closed; buyer concessions must be documented.

09 / GRADING & DEFECT PREVENTION

Grade clearly. Prevent repeat defects.

A/B/C is a proposed commercial framework, not a universal natural stone grading standard. Agree criteria per order.

Grade	Proposed criteria	Disposition
A	Meets agreed dimensions, finish and approved appearance range; no unacceptable damage or structural defect.	Accept for specified use.
B	Sound material with disclosed cosmetic variation or minor repair outside Grade A appearance criteria.	Separate; buyer approval required.
C	Fails agreed specification, or has unacceptable cracks, damage, finish or dimensional deviation.	Hold; rework, replace or reject.

Common defect	Prevention / response
Cracks and edge chips	Inspect at source and after processing; improve supports and handling. Isolate damaged pieces.
Unexpected shade or veins	Approve a representative range; map and blend batches. Share deviations before dispatch.
Uneven thickness / size	Approve first pieces; check calibration and measurement records through production.
Scratches, dull areas or poor filling	Compare finishing samples; protect contact surfaces and re-inspect reworked areas.





10 / PACKING STANDARDS

Protect the stone through transit

Select packaging for stone format, weight, handling route and destination requirements.

Packing format	Controls to confirm
Crates	Rigid construction, load-rated base and supports, protected contact points, internal restraint and access for safe handling.
Slab bundles	Suitable supports and orientation, face separation, edge protection and securing compatible with slab weight and lifting method.
Wooden pallets	Adequate load capacity, stable stacking, protected corners, secure strapping and suitable forklift access.
Protection materials	Use suitable foam, separators, corner guards and covers. Avoid materials that can stain or abrade the stone.



Identify every package

Mark package number, material, quantity, dimensions and weight as applicable. Link each package to the packing list and include handling or orientation marks.

Packing acceptance

Check timber treatment and marking requirements for the destination where applicable. Verify package integrity, moisture protection, weight declaration and any buyer-specific packing instructions before loading.

11 / CONTAINER STUFFING

Supervise the final loading handover

Document the condition of the cargo and the loading sequence before the container is sealed.

Before loading

Check container identification, cleanliness, dryness and visible condition. Verify the loading plan, package count and handling equipment. Confirm payload, weight distribution and securing requirements with the responsible logistics parties.

During stuffing

Supervise placement to minimise movement and contact damage. Check package orientation, blocking, bracing and lashing as appropriate. Keep package numbers visible or record their location in the loading sequence.



Photo documentation set

Capture the empty container, package condition, progressive loading views, securing details, final loaded view, closed doors, container number and seal number. Link images to the order and loading date.

> **Final loading record**
>
> Reconcile loaded packages with the packing list. Record exceptions and seal details, then share the agreed loading evidence with the buyer before dispatch.

12 / SHIPPING & DOCUMENTATION

Make the shipment file consistent

Coordinate dispatch information and document preparation under the agreed commercial and shipping terms.

Document	Purpose / cross-check
Bill of Lading	Carrier-issued transport document. Review shipper, consignee, notify party, ports, package count, weights and shipment references.
Packing List	Package-level contents, quantities, dimensions and weights. Reconcile to the loaded cargo.
Certificate of Origin	Origin document where required. Coordinate the appropriate issuing route and match material and shipment details.
Commercial Invoice	Verify buyer and seller details, description, quantities, values, currency and agreed delivery terms.
Inspection Report	Record scope, sampling, actual observations, photographs, deviations and release status.

Coordination through dispatch

Align cargo readiness with the booking and handover dates. Share shipment milestones, transport references and the agreed document set so the buyer can prepare for arrival.

> **Buyer-specific requirements**
>
> Confirm destination documentation, consignee details, originals or electronic document needs and any additional certificates before shipment. Carrier schedules and document issuance remain subject to the responsible parties.

13 / THE SOURCING ADVANTAGE

Six reasons to choose Merugo Tradex

A practical partnership designed to make procurement decisions clearer and shipment preparation more controlled.

01 **Material-led selection**

Options aligned to application, finish, appearance expectations and commercial needs.

02 **A coordinated sourcing partner**

One point of coordination across suppliers, quality checks, packing and dispatch preparation.

03 **A considered supplier shortlist**

Capability and capacity reviewed against the order, with comparable commercial specifications.

04 **Quality evidence before dispatch**

Inspection records and photographs linked to the batch, specification and agreed acceptance criteria.

05 **Attention to export preparation**

Package identification, protection checks and supervised loading documentation.

06 **Clear communication**

Defined decision points, timely escalation of deviations and a consistent shipment file.

14 / CONTACT MERUGO TRADEX

Start with a clear specification

Tell us what you need. We will help define the next sourcing step.

Include with your enquiry

Material or reference image; intended application; dimensions and thickness; finish; quantity; acceptable variation; packing preference; destination port; delivery timeline and agreed commercial terms.

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Source well. Build with confidence.

From the first material discussion to the final shipment file, Merugo Tradex brings a structured approach to natural stone sourcing and quality inspection.

Publication field to complete: countries served. Confirm the offered range and order-specific inspection requirements before external publication.