MOBILE

FAA Issues Warning About Samsung Phones on Planes Due to Exploding Batteries

Galaxy Note 7 owners are being strongly advised not to turn on or charge the devices aboard planes, or stow them in checked baggage.



— A woman tests a Samsung Galaxy Note7 smartphone at a Samsung showroom in Seoul on Sept. 2. Samsung will suspend sales of its latest high-end smartphone Galaxy Note 7 after reports of exploding batteries, its mobile chief said on September 2. Jung Yeon-Je / Afp - Getty Images

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By Phil Helsel

The Federal Aviation Administration on Thursday strongly urged travelers not to turn on or charge Samsung Galaxy Note 7 cellphones while on planes, after a series of incidents involving exploding batteries.

"In light of recent incidents and concerns raised by Samsung about its Galaxy Note 7 devices, the Federal Aviation Administration strongly advises passengers not to turn on or charge these devices on board aircraft and not to stow them in any checked baggage," the FAA said in a statement.

Samsung Electronics on Sept. 2 issued a recall for the roughly 2.5 million devices after reports that batteries exploded while the devices were being charged.

Three Australian airlines have already barred passengers from using or charging the smartphones during flights.

The recall resulted in nearly \$7 billion being wiped off Samsung's share value this week. The phones retail at around \$850.

The South Korean manufacturer has launched a product exchange for Note 7 owners. Last week the company said it had identified 35 cases of batteries burning or exploding while charging.



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Reuters contributed.