



Interagency Aviation SAFETY ALERT



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Subject: FAA Advisory on Samsung Galaxy Note 7

Area of Concern: Flight Safety

Distribution: All Aviation Activities

Discussion: Due to several incidents with a newly released mobile phone, the FAA has issued a advisory for airplane passengers with the Samsung Galaxy Note 7 device.



The FAA Advisory: From the FAA website:

“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.”

Samsung has also recommended to stop using the phones. In a statement posted on its website, Samsung asked users around the world to "immediately" return their existing Galaxy Note 7 and get a replacement.

“We are asking users to power down their Galaxy Note 7s and exchange them as soon as possible,” Koh Dong-jin, Samsung's mobile president, said in the statement. "We are expediting replacement devices so that they can be provided through the exchange program as conveniently as possible.”

Many airlines and other operators are following suit with their own recommendations restricting passenger's use of and charging of the phone aboard aircraft.

The Galaxy Note 7 have had a number of reported cases of batteries that overheated causing the phone to explode or catch fire. This issue prompted the large recall from the manufacturer.

Recommendations:

- Agency passengers and crewmember should follow the FAA/DOT recommendation on this phone and all other electronic devices using lithium-ion batteries on all DOI/USFS flights:
http://www.faa.gov/other_visit/aviation_industry/airline_operators/airline_safety/safo/all_safos/media/2016/SAFO16011.pdf
- Best Practices are to turn off **ALL** electronic devices and not to charge them on any DOI/USFS flights, with the exception of approved Electronic Flight Bags
- Revise the Interagency Aviation Transport of Hazardous Materials Handbook/Guide to include transport of lithium-ion batteries

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