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Samsung Shipment Worth £8.2 Million Vanishes in London Truck Heist

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— Categories: Crime



A truck carrying thousands of Samsung's latest high-end devices has been stolen near Heathrow Airport. The total value of the missing goods is estimated at around £8.2 million. The theft, involving roughly 12,000 foldable smartphones, marks one of the most significant tech heists in the UK in recent years.

The stolen shipment included Samsung's recently launched Galaxy Z Fold 7 and Galaxy Z Flip 7 smartphones, which were on their way to a distribution site after arriving at Heathrow.

Reports suggest that the incident took place during a logistics transfer, and the truck has not been located since it disappeared.

Wider Haul

While initial reports centred on the foldable smartphones, further details reveal that the stolen cargo was far more extensive. According to South Korea's Yonhap News TV, the shipment also contained 5,000 Galaxy Watch 8 units and other unreleased models such as the Galaxy S25 and A16 series. The theft points to a targeted operation with clear knowledge of the value and timing of the delivery.

The devices were reportedly taken after being moved from airport facilities to a warehouse nearby. Authorities suspect the criminals involved may have had insider information or prior experience with high-value logistics routes. Investigators are now working to trace the truck and identify those behind the crime.

Samsung has not released an official public statement, though it is expected that the company is cooperating closely with law enforcement in the UK. In situations like this, manufacturers typically activate remote lockdown features on the stolen devices. This renders the smartphones and smartwatches inoperable, making resale extremely difficult, particularly in mainstream markets.

The incident comes at a critical time for the tech company, which had recently announced record-breaking pre-orders for its new range of foldables. The Galaxy Z Fold 7 and Flip 7 have been heavily promoted, and early consumer interest has been strong both in the UK and internationally.

Thankfully for consumers, Samsung has reassured retail partners that the stolen shipment will not affect delivery schedules. Pre-orders are continuing to ship on time, and there have been no reported delays. Sources suggest the entire shipment was insured, which will help to cushion the financial blow, though it may still lead to temporary stock shortages if replacements take time to arrive.

The heist highlights growing concerns about the security of high-value technology shipments, especially during high-demand periods. It also raises questions about vulnerabilities in the logistics process from airport to warehouse, where security gaps are often exploited.

Experts say this kind of theft is becoming increasingly sophisticated, particularly when valuable and in-demand devices are involved. With over 12,000 premium Samsung products now missing, the challenge for authorities will be to locate the stolen goods and prevent them from entering the global black market.

As the investigation continues, Samsung and other manufacturers may be forced to tighten their supply chain protocols to avoid similar incidents in the future. For now, the stolen truck's whereabouts and its high-value content remain unknown.