Emirates bans Samsung Galaxy Note 7 on its planes
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Emirates has banned Samsung's Galaxy Note 7 smartphone from its planes, citing concerns over safety.

The General Civil Aviation Authority has banned operating, charging and carrying in bags the Samsung Note 7 on board national carriers' flights, it said in a statement carried by the official WAM news agency on Saturday.

"This measure is to avoid the possibility of these devices' batteries causing fires," it said.

Another carrier in the United Arab Emirates, Etihad Airways, has already temporarily banned the use of the Galaxy Note 7 smartphones on board its flights, and the UAE also has two low-cost airlines, flydubai and Air Arabia.

Civil aviation authorities in the Emirates have banned the use of Samsung's Galaxy Note 7 on all its national carriers because of the risk of batteries exploding in the "phablet" smartphone.

"The General Civil Aviation Authority has banned operating, charging and carrying in bags the Samsung Note 7 on board national carriers' flights," it said in a statement carried by the official WAM news agency on Saturday.

Since then, airlines or air safety agencies around the world have warned passengers against using them on flights.

On Friday, the US Consumer Product Safety Commission urged Note 7 owners to stop using it.

Dubai's Emirates Airline, the largest Middle East carrier, said it will comply "immediately" with the instruction from civil aviation.

"This measure is to avoid the possibility of these devices' batteries causing fires," it said.

Another carrier in the United Arab Emirates, Etihad Airways, has already temporarily banned the use of the Galaxy Note 7 smartphones on board its flights, and the UAE also has two low-cost airlines, flydubai and Air Arabia.

Singapore Airlines, Australia's Qantas, and Virgin Australia have announced similar bans.

US and Japanese aviation authorities have urged passengers not to turn on or charge the large-screen phones on aircraft, while the US Federal Aviation Administration has told passengers not to stow the device in checked baggage.