

Samsung stops making Galaxy Note 7s as fresh problems emerge

October 11 2016, by Youkyung Lee



This Sunday, Oct. 9, 2016, photo shows a damaged Samsung Galaxy Note 7 on a table in Richmond, Va., after it caught fire earlier in the day. Samsung Electronics said Tuesday, Oct. 11, that it is discontinuing production of Galaxy Note 7 smartphones permanently, a day after stopping global sales of the ill-fated devices. (Shawn L. Minter via AP)

Samsung Electronics said Tuesday that it is stopping production of

Galaxy Note 7 smartphones permanently, a day after stopping global sales of the ill-fated devices amid reports that batteries were catching fire.

The South Korean company said in a regulatory filing that it decided to stop manufacturing Note 7s for the sake of consumer safety.

Samsung is struggling to regain consumer trust after a first round of recalls that prompted criticism both for the faulty devices and for the company's handling of the problem.

After the earlier recall, the company said it had identified a manufacturing defect in the batteries of its top-of-the-line smartphone.

It started shipping new Note 7 phones that were supposed to be safer. But reports that even the replacements were catching fire led Samsung to announce it was stopping sales of the devices.

Authorities in the U.S. and South Korea are still investigating why even the replacement Note 7 phones that Samsung equipped with a safer battery are catching fire. An official at the South Korean safety agency said the replacement phones may have a defect that is different from the problem with the original Note 7s.

Samsung's shares plunged 8 percent Tuesday in Seoul, their biggest fall since the 2008 financial crisis. And that was before it announced it was discontinuing the Note 7.



Dee Decasa holds her replacement Galaxy Note 7 smartphone in an aluminum pan at her home in Honolulu on Monday, Oct. 10, 2016, one day after the phone released smoke and sizzled. Samsung said it is halting sales of the Galaxy Note 7 after a spate of fires involving new devices that were supposed to be safe replacements for recalled models. (AP Photo/Audrey McAvoy)

Also Tuesday, China's product safety regulator said Samsung will recall all Galaxy Note 7 smartphones sold in mainland China, amounting to around 191,000 units.

The General Administration of Quality Supervision, Inspection and Quarantine said it was investigating for defects in the devices

Samsung will either provide a full refund at the original price or replace Note 7 units with any other model of Samsung phone, and give refunds of the difference in prices, along with a 300 yuan (\$45) voucher.

Samsung's brand has already been battered by complaints it is doing too little to reassure Chinese owners their handsets are safe.

Initially, Samsung had said in September that the Note 7s sold in China would not be affected because their batteries came from a different supplier, ATL. Samsung recalled 1,858 Note 7 phones in China in September, saying they were distributed for testing before sales to the public began on Sept. 1.



Samsung Electronics Galaxy Note 7 smartphones are displayed at its shop in

Seoul, South Korea, Tuesday, Oct. 11, 2016. Samsung said Tuesday it is halting sales of the star-crossed Galaxy Note 7 smartphone after a spate of fires involving new devices that were supposed to be safe replacements for recalled models. (AP Photo/Lee Jin-man)



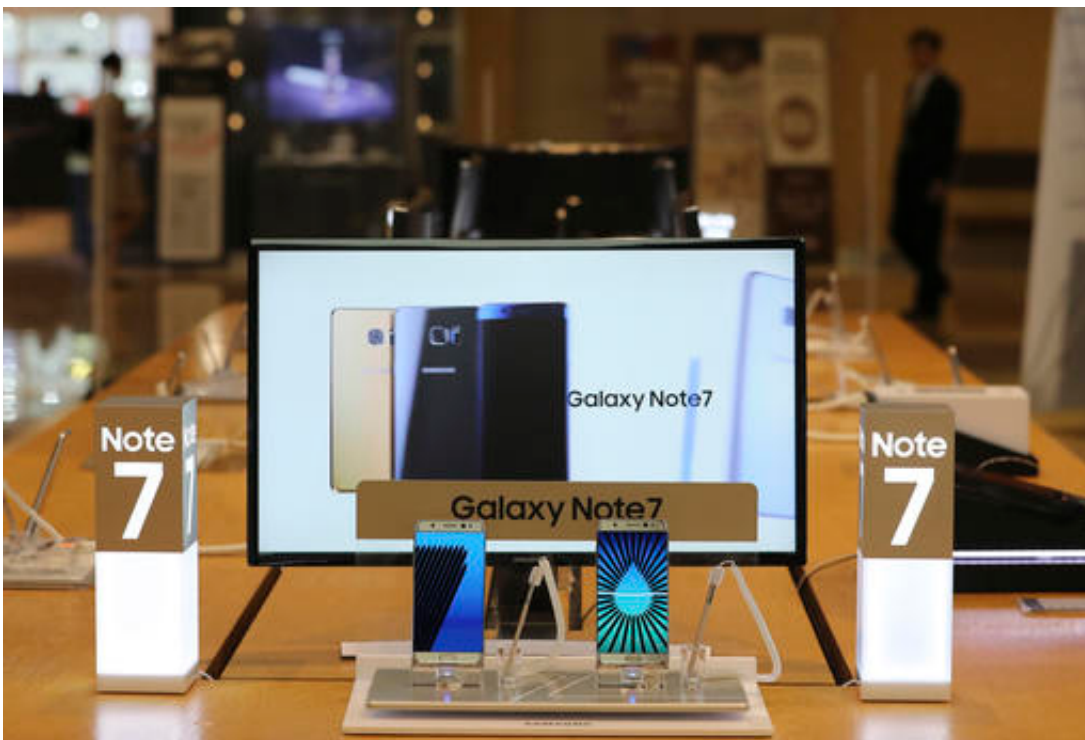
A visitor tries the Samsung Electronics Galaxy Note 7 smartphone at its shop in Seoul, South Korea, Tuesday, Oct. 11, 2016. Samsung said Tuesday it is halting sales of the star-crossed Galaxy Note 7 smartphone after a spate of fires involving new devices that were supposed to be safe replacements for recalled models. (AP Photo/Lee Jin-man)



A visitor tries the Samsung Electronics Galaxy Note 7 smartphone at its shop in Seoul, South Korea, Tuesday, Oct. 11, 2016. Samsung said Tuesday it is halting sales of the star-crossed Galaxy Note 7 smartphone after a spate of fires involving new devices that were supposed to be safe replacements for recalled models. (AP Photo/Lee Jin-man)



A visitor passes by an advertisement of the Samsung Electronics Galaxy Note 7 smartphone at its shop in Seoul, South Korea, Tuesday, Oct. 11, 2016. Samsung said Tuesday it is halting sales of the star-crossed Galaxy Note 7 smartphone after a spate of fires involving new devices that were supposed to be safe replacements for recalled models. (AP Photo/Lee Jin-man)



Samsung Electronics Galaxy Note 7 smartphone are displayed at its shop in Seoul, South Korea, Tuesday, Oct. 11, 2016. Samsung said Tuesday it is halting sales of the star-crossed Galaxy Note 7 smartphone after a spate of fires involving new devices that were supposed to be safe replacements for recalled models. (AP Photo/Lee Jin-man)

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