

The Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) has ordered a nationwide ground stop for departing flights across U.S. airports due to a telecommunications outage and safety concerns. The disruption is expected to affect flight schedules even after restrictions are lifted.

Key Updates

- All departing flights across U.S. airports have been grounded until further notice.
- Inbound international flights are being handled on a case-by-case basis, while aircraft already airborne can continue to their destinations.
- The Trump administration has acknowledged a telecommunications outage but has not identified its underlying cause.

Situation Overview

The FAA issued the ground stop on November 13, citing extraordinary circumstances and safety concerns. Homeland Security Secretary Markwayne Mullin reassured the public that everyone was safe but cautioned that resolving the situation would take time. When asked whether artificial intelligence (AI) could be involved, he did not rule out the possibility.

With 28,852 flights scheduled to depart from U.S. airports that day, the disruption is expected to affect a significant portion of daily flight operations. Tourism intelligence company Data Appeal spokesperson Carlos Cendra warned that even if airspace reopens quickly, aircraft and crews could be left in the wrong locations, creating additional scheduling challenges.

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Operational Impact

The disruption may have several immediate and downstream effects:

- Suspended departures and case-by-case international arrivals may affect planned flight schedules.
- Aircraft and crew displacement could create additional delays as airlines work to restore normal operations.
- Knock-on effects may extend into November 14, even if the ground stop is lifted overnight.

The duration of the ground stop and the extent of its broader effects remain uncertain. Airlines may need additional time to reposition aircraft and crews before normal schedules can resume.

KWE continues to monitor developments and assess potential impacts on air freight operations as additional information becomes available. Customers with time-sensitive shipments should contact their KWE representative for shipment-specific updates.

Source:

- **Flights halted at airports across US due to air traffic control communications problems** – AP News
- **FAA grounds all flights due to "extraordinary circumstances"** – Air Cargo Week

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