



## **Be Alert! Cargo Theft Increases Over Holiday Weekend**

May 25, 2016

While enjoying the outdoors with friends and family, it's easy to forget the perils of holiday weekends for those in the shipping industry. Thieves target these weekends specifically because over long weekends, shipments can sit unattended in parking lots, docks and in warehouses.

According to FreightWatch International, the most notable Memorial Day weekend thefts from 2013-2015 include:

2013, California, Full Truckload of Apparel, \$300,000  
2013, Florida, Full Truckload of Medication, \$300,000  
2014, South Carolina, Full Truckload of Cosmetics, \$200,000  
2014, Florida, Full Truckload of Televisions & Displays, \$800,000  
2015, New Jersey, Full Truckload of Perfume, \$2,500,000  
2015, California, Full Truckload of Notebook Computers, \$400,000  
2015, Pennsylvania, Full Truckload of Copper, \$600,000  
2015, New Jersey, Full Truckload of Tobacco Accessories, \$600,000

### **Trends**

As you can see from the above statistics, full truckloads are the most popular type of theft, but in Q1-2016, FreightWatch also noted that pilferage accounted for 9% of thefts, followed by fictitious pickup (5%) and facility theft (3%).

Also of note are types of products being targeted most. Food and drinks come up strong as the most common theft (20%). This is followed by home and garden (14%), building and industrial (13%), and automobiles and parts (11%).

These huge losses can impact both your bottom line and your reputation with customers. So what can you do?

### **Best Practices**

Be diligent in protecting your company against these risks this year. Put security measures in place, follow proper warehouse operations protocols, and track shipments in-transit. Most of all, prepare for the worst-case-scenario: cargo theft. You can do so by contacting Avalon to assist you in securing "All Risk" Cargo Insurance coverage.

For more information on Cargo Insurance, contact [marketing@avalonrisk.com](mailto:marketing@avalonrisk.com) or visit our [cargo insurance product page](#).

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