

AUTOMOTIVE

## Bentley, Porsche, Lamborghini vehicles sink with cargo ship

March 3, 2022



*The "Felicity Ace" was transporting nearly 4,000 luxury cars to the United States. Image credit: Portuguese Navy*

By LUXURY DAILY NEWS SERVICE

A cargo ship carrying thousands of luxury vehicles, including Bentley, Porsche, Lamborghini and Audi models, has sunk after catching fire two weeks ago.

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All 22 crew members were safely evacuated and taken ashore to a nearby island when the fire broke out, so no one was on board when the ship sank as it was being escorted to a port. According to [CNN](#), the total damage for all the vehicles on board is estimated at \$335 million, which Volkswagen Group says will be covered by insurance.

Automotive loss

The ship was traveling from Germany to Rhode Island when the fire started nearly 90 miles southwest of Portugal's Azores Islands, according to the ship's operator [MOL Ship Management of Singapore](#).

The company has not issued a statement on how the fire started but continuously monitored the vessel in transport, reporting no oil leakage en route. When it sank, however, there was a small oil slick seen in the water.



*The ship was carrying more than 1,000 Porsches and 200 Bentleys. Image credit: Porsche*

A spokesman for Porsche told *The New York Times* the company is currently working to replace every vehicle that was damaged for its customers.

Volkswagen Group, which owns Bentley, Porsche, Lamborghini and Audi, also announced today that it will cease production of all vehicles in Russia and suspend exports amid the country's invasion of Ukraine, joining a number of luxury groups who are speaking up to show support for Ukraine during this devastating conflict.

On March 2, French luxury conglomerate LVMH Mot Hennessy Louis Vuitton announced an emergency donation of 5 million euros, or \$5.6 million at current exchange rates, to aid efforts for Ukraine.

LVMH stated it was closely monitoring the events in Ukraine and that the group stands with everyone severely affected by the war ([see story](#)).

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