

Securing the Supply Chain: Combating Cargo Crimes in the Middle East

Abdul Fahl – TT Club

Transport Middle East 2026 – Abu Dhabi

28th January 2026

1968

The year TT Club was established and containers revolutionised freight transport.

65%

We have an insurable interest in 2/3 of the top 100 ports worldwide.

80%

Percentage of the world's maritime containers insured by TT Club.

20+

The number of dedicated countries in which TT Club has dedicated offices.

Established expertise

•Our Focus- Why do we do what we do?

- To deliver benefit to our Members and their industries

•Added Value Approach

- Industry collaboration
- Loss prevention
- Knowledge led approach
- Stability & prudent Underwriting
- Long term relationships
- Leader in class- marine insurance is all we do!

•Mutuality

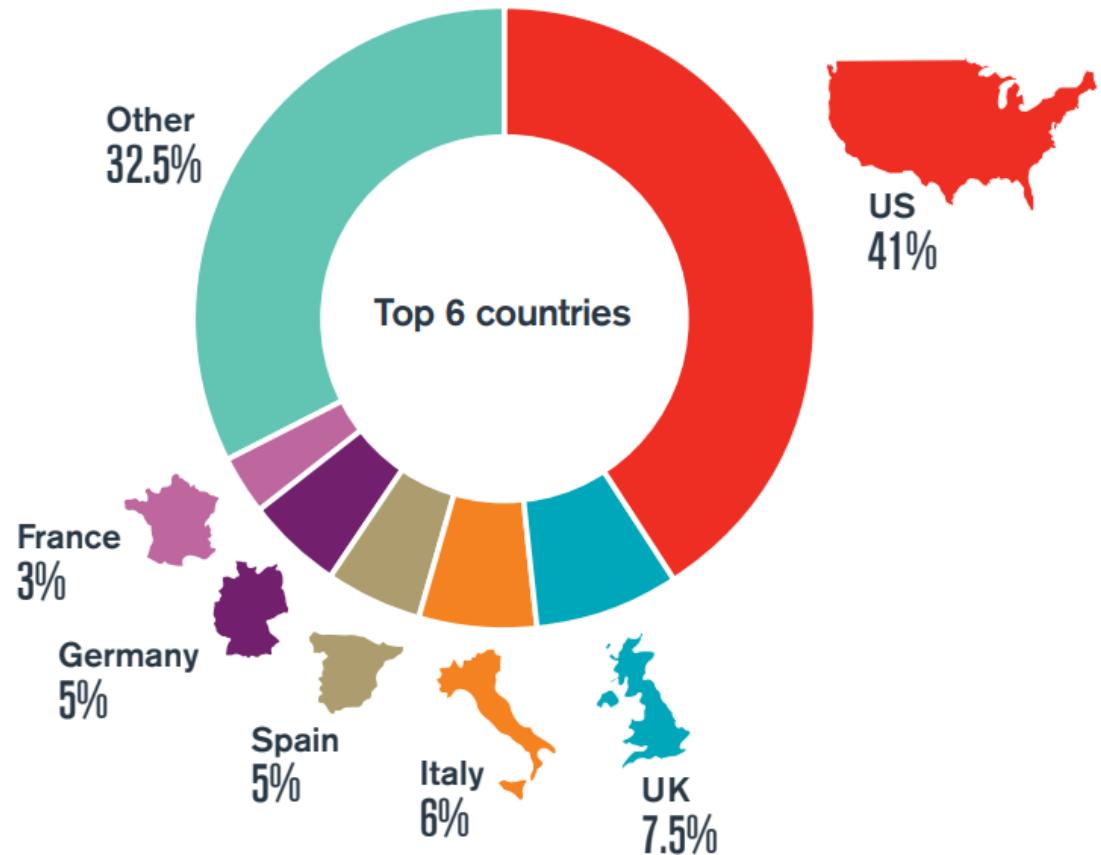
- Non for profit
- Service
- Claims & Underwriting approach
- Flexibility

As a mutual insurer we are non for profit and our number one aim is to offer the best possible service, product and support that both our members/clients and the industry benefit from. We know the added value we bring and we strive to continue to build upon this, to improve and share that value across the industries we are here to serve.

TT Club Global & Regional Claims Overview

Global Theft Risk

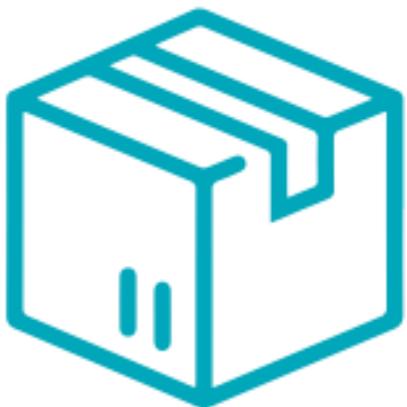
Based on data compiled by TT Club and BSI



Top commodities



Electronics
15%



Food & Beverage
12%



Metals
7.5%



Clothing
7%

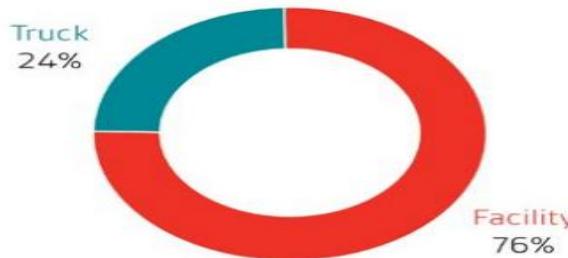


Vehicles & parts
7%

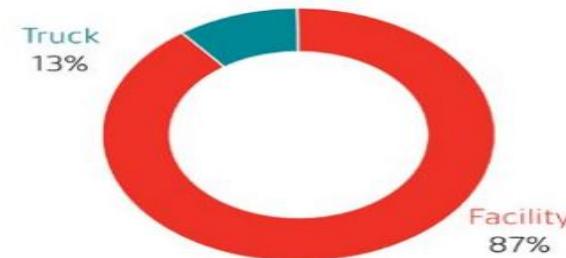
High Risk Areas in the Gulf Countries



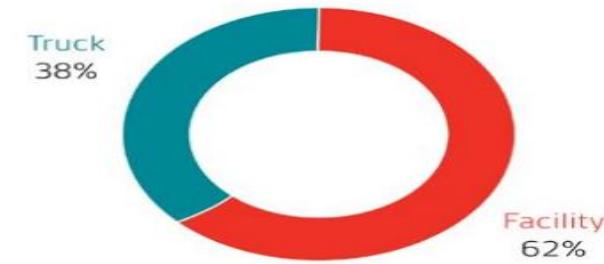
Criminals Primarily Target Facilities in the Gulf Countries



Top Modalities Targeted in the United Arab Emirates

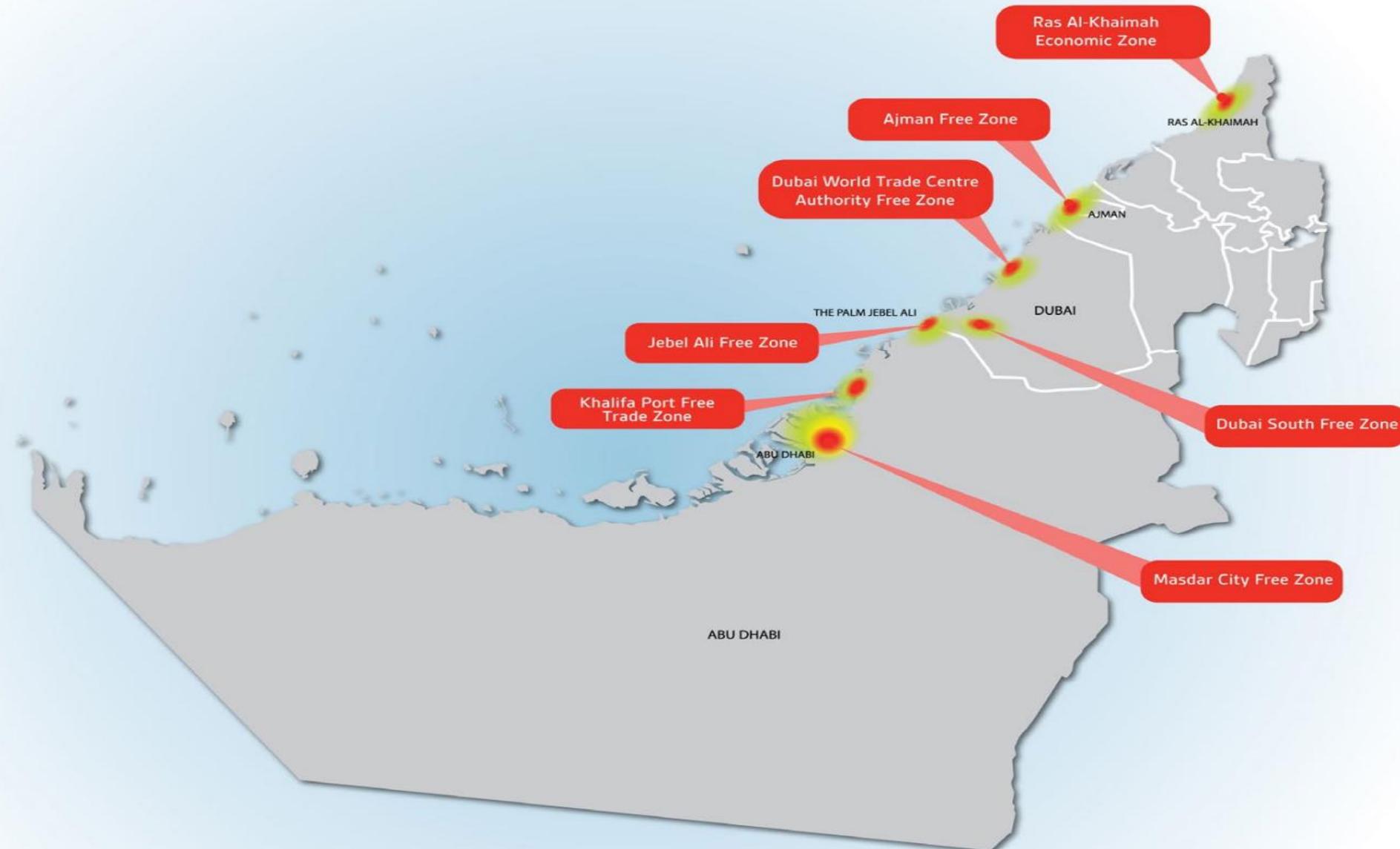


Top Modalities Targeted in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia



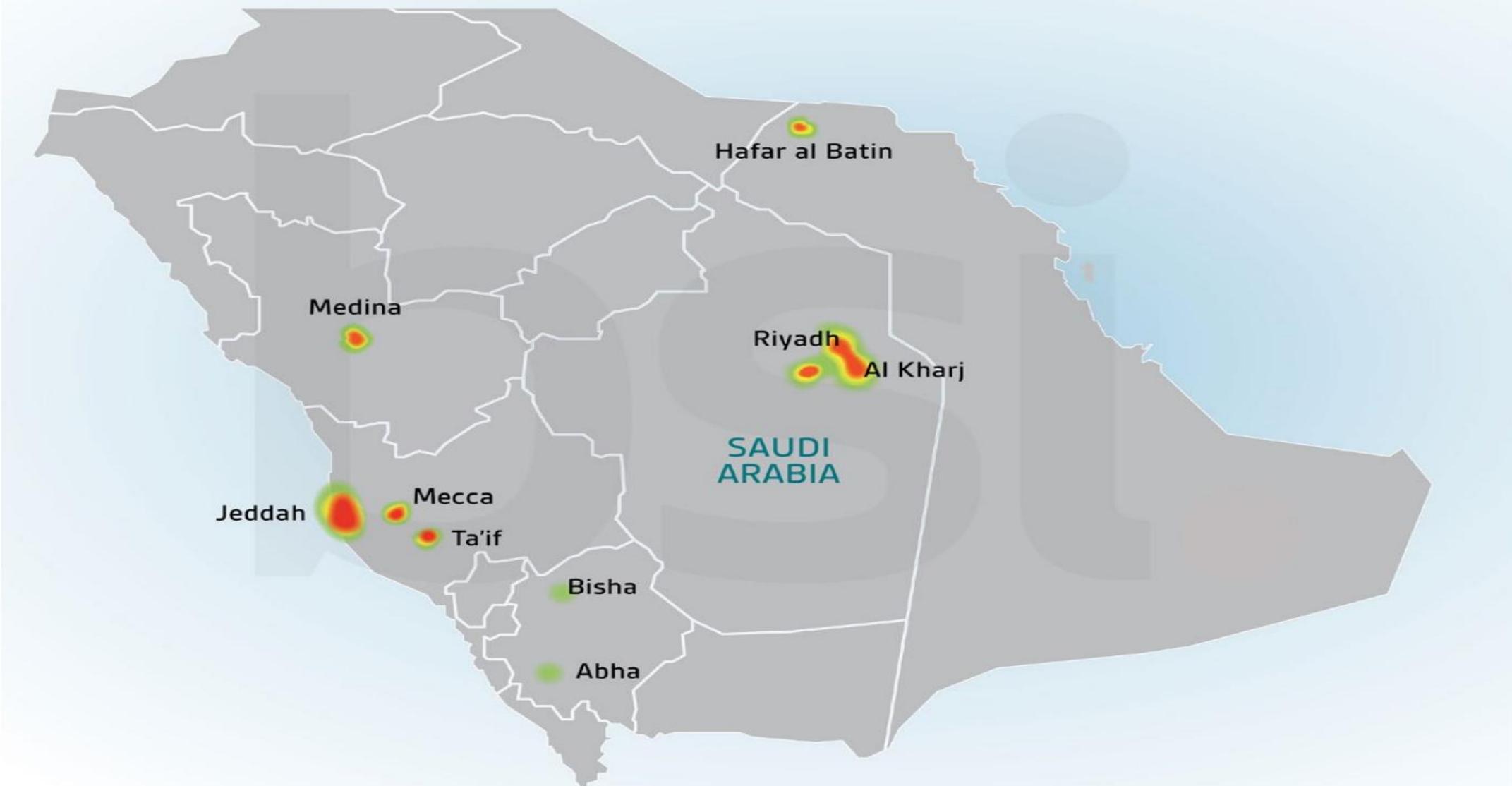
Distribution of Cargo Theft in the United Arab Emirates

Based on historical data and qualitative analysis

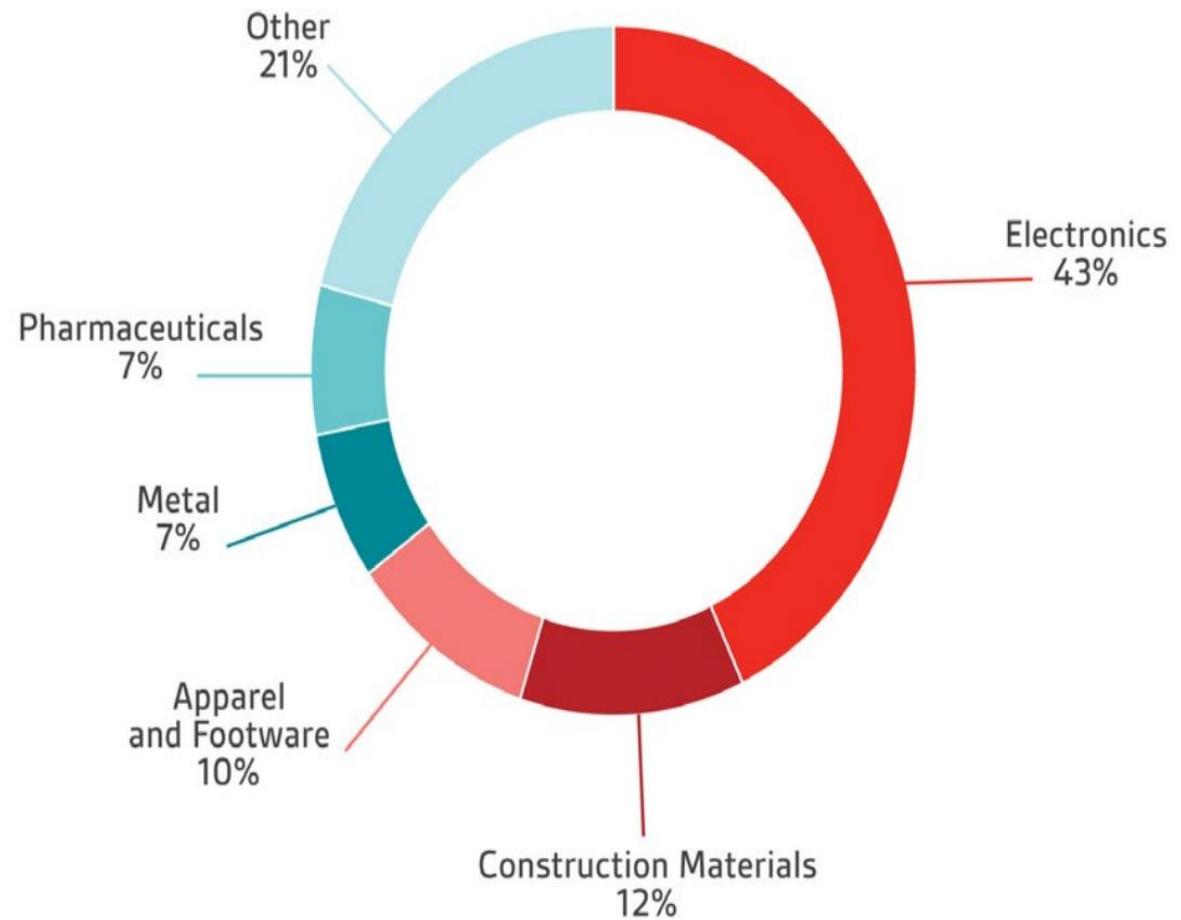


Distribution of Cargo Theft in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia

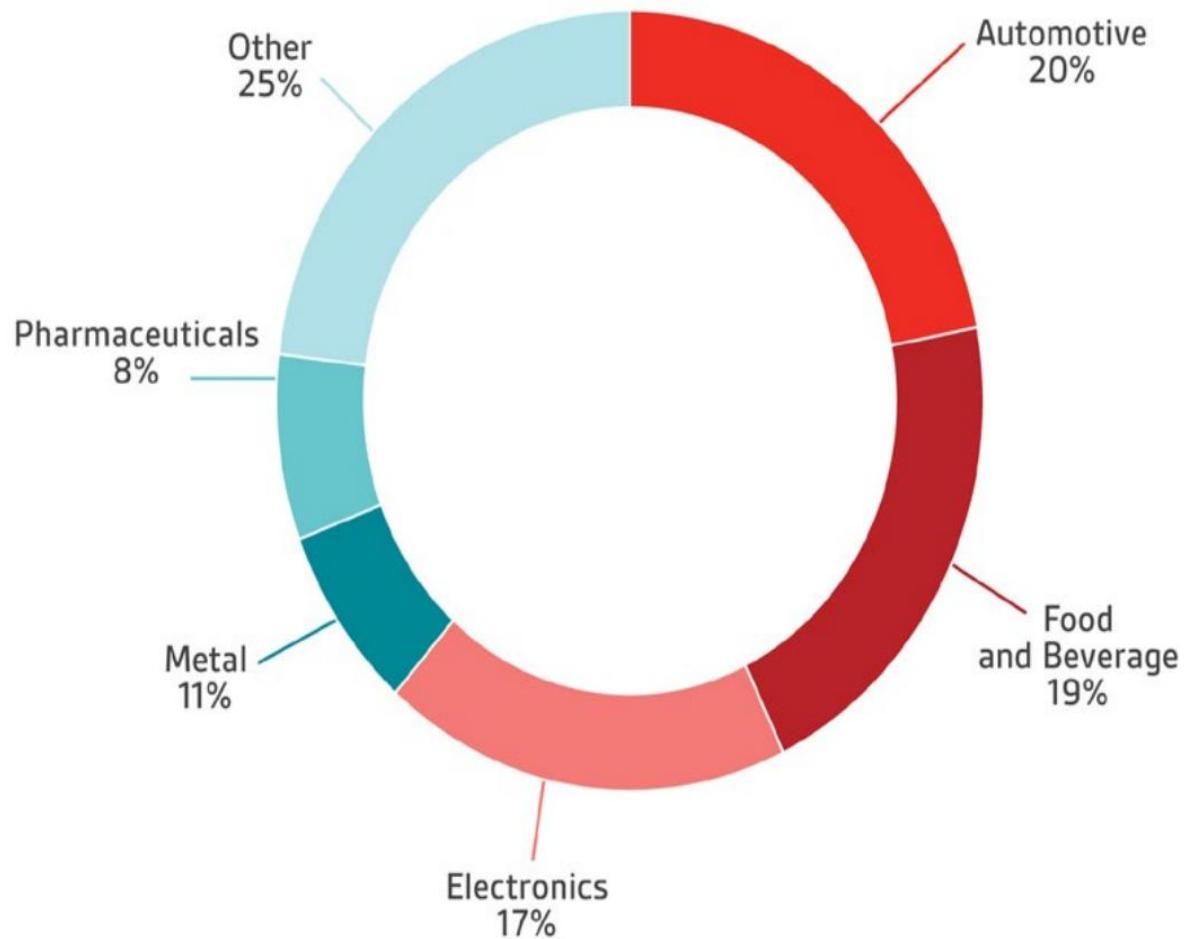
Based on historical data and qualitative analysis



Top Commodities Stolen in the United Arab Emirates



Top Commodities Stolen in Saudi Arabia

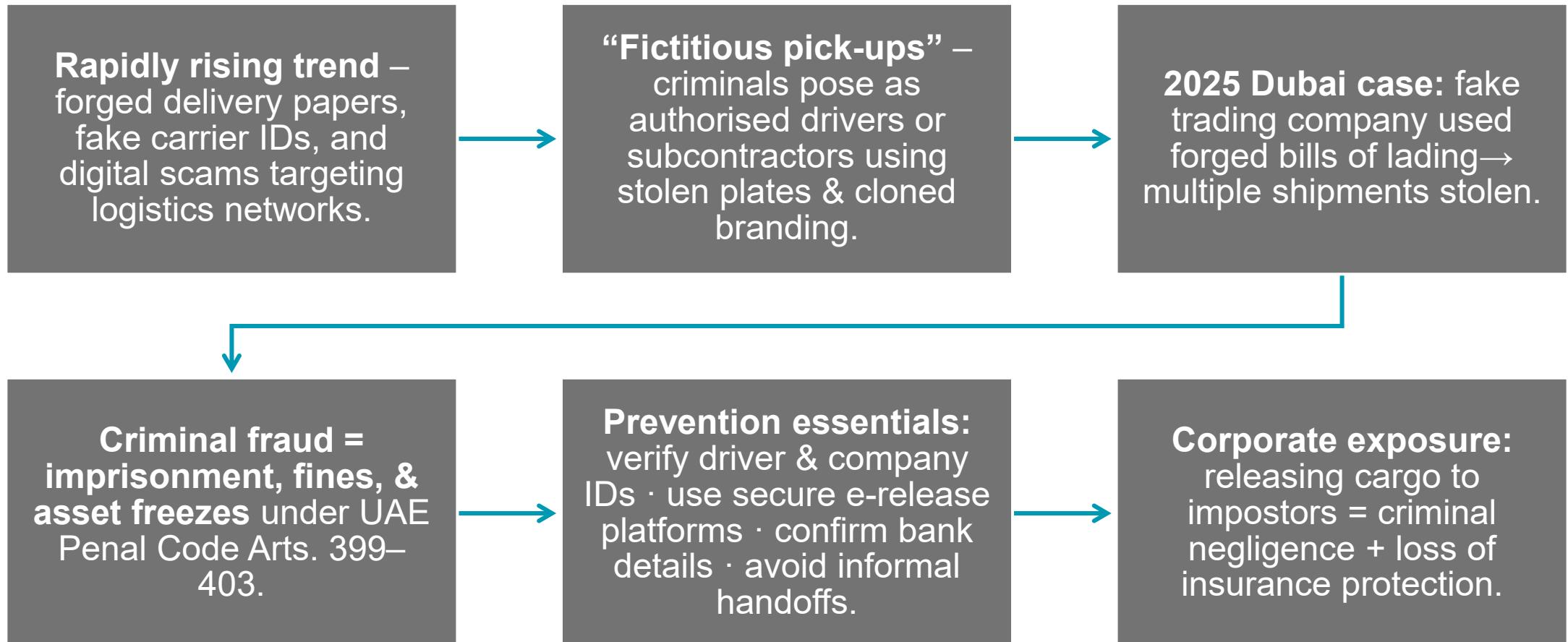


Claims Insights



Claims Case Study

Fraud & Documentation Crimes



Case 1 – Trailer Missing – Famous Furniture Brand

Facts:

- Haulier, insured with TT Club, was contracted to handle customs clearance and delivery of an import shipment.
- The haulier used its own trucks and drivers for the delivery.
- Cargo was valued at USD 175,000.
- Upon arrival at the consignee's warehouse, drivers were instructed to park outside as all loading/discharge bays were occupied.
- The trucks along with the containers went missing from outside the warehouse.
- Two days later, the trucks and empty containers were found abandoned in a nearby neighborhood.
- A police report was filed for the incident

Result:

- The haulier paid its customer as per carriage contract terms.
- TT Club paid the haulier.



Case 2 – Theft of Cargo – Copper Wire / Rods

Facts:

- A Freight Forwarder, insured with TT Club, was contracted to arrange the export of copper wire in 16 x 20' containers.
- Freight Forwarder sub-contracted the road carriage to a reputed trucking company with a sizeable fleet.
- Multiple trucks were deployed on 27th November, with one truck assigned to pick up 2 x 20' containers with a cargo value of USD400,000.
- The driver collected the cargo from the shipper's premises but failed to deliver the 2 containers to the port as instructed.
- Investigation revealed the driver had disconnected the GPS system and facilitated the theft.
- Police checks on immigration records confirmed the driver exited the country via Dubai Airport on 27th November.

Result:

- The freight forwarder were represented in court proceedings but were ultimately found liable for USD 400,000
- TT Club settled the amount on behalf of the freight forwarder.
- TT Club is now pursuing recovery of the payment from the trucking company.



Case 3 – Hijack – Cobalt Hydroxide

Facts:

- A freight forwarder, insured with TT Club, was contracted to handle an export shipment of cobalt hydroxide.
- The freight forwarder subcontracted the road carriage to third party haulage company.
- The driver was stopped by individuals posing as South African Police during a routine check.
- Shortly after, another vehicle arrived; its occupants instructed the driver to exit the truck.
- The driver then realized the police officers were impostors.
- He was handcuffed, placed in the car's rear seat, and driven to a remote location.
- At the drop-off point, the driver was told to walk about 50 meters before the car and its occupants fled.
- The driver eventually reached a house several kilometers away and contacted the police for assistance.
- The incident was reported to Armor Defence and Risk Strategies (Pty) Ltd, who conducted an investigation and issued a report.

Result:

The freight forwarder invoked the Force Majeure clause as a defense, and the claim was successfully defended.



Case 4 – Fraud Documents – Buffalo Meat

Facts:

- A freight forwarder, insured with TT Club, was contracted to arrange carriage of 10 x 40' containers stuffed with buffalo meat under a single Bill of Lading (BL). Cargo was valued at USD 1 million.
- Upon discharge, the consignee presented a fake BL at the Delivery Order (DO) counter, which resulted in the DO being issued.
- The consignee successfully took delivery of all 10 x 40' containers.
- The shipper remained silent until the DO was issued and only began following up after the 10 empty containers were returned to the port.
- The freight forwarder approached the police, but they were unable to register the case and referred the matter to the prosecution.
- TT Club engaged lawyers who, through their contacts, managed to have a criminal case registered.
- The consignee's office was found closed with no activity.



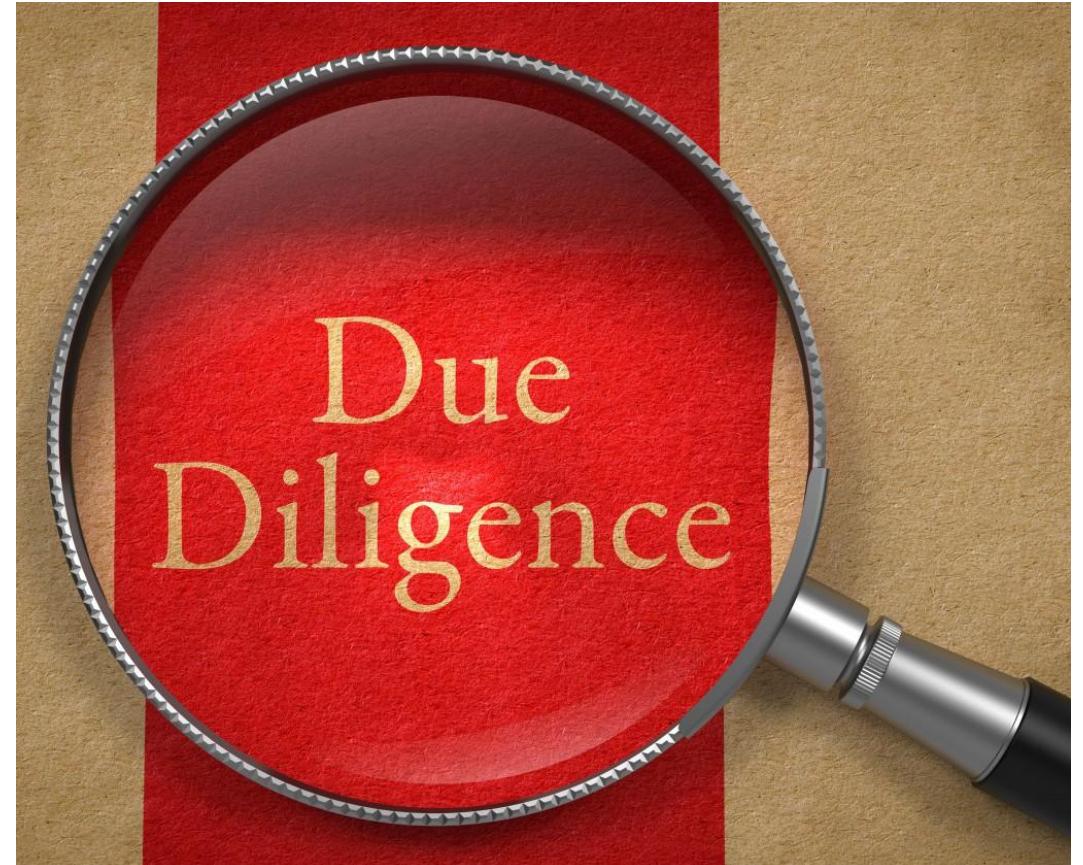
Result:

- A legal suit has been filed against the freight forwarder in court.
- TT Club appointed a lawyer to defend the freight forwarder in court

Prevention and Risk Management

Due Diligence & Legal Defense: The Role of Vetting and Contracts

1. Subcontractor vetting is the first line of defense against crime.
2. Written contracts define responsibilities and allocate risks, ensuring clarity when incidents arise.
3. Absence of a written contract could result in full exposure and makes it significantly harder to establish and defend liability.
4. Negligent hiring constitutes gross fault, leading to loss of liability protection and potential criminal exposure.
5. Prevention combined with proper documentation provides the strongest defense against liability and prosecution.



Loss Prevention Publications available on www.ttclub.com

TT Talk

Cargo theft
Are you creating opportunities for cargo thieves?
85% of cargo theft happens while in transit. Some attacks are opportunistic and some are highly sophisticated and organised – many involve violence.
Many thefts occur in unsecured roadside parking often used as rest areas. Can you afford to put your drivers and reputation at risk? What can you do to prevent cargo theft and protect your drivers from becoming targets?

Fraud - Carrier fraud
Do you know the red flags to look out for?
Workers in the global supply chain can easily become victims of fraud as they conduct day-to-day business. Carrier fraud is becoming increasingly prevalent and sophisticated. Today's digital business environment has enabled fraudsters to create fictitious companies, intercept legitimate business transactions and obscure their fraudulent activity more easily reducing their risk of getting caught.
In this document, we focus on three types of carrier fraud: fake carriers, fake delivery instructions and driver call diverting, as well as the preventative measures you can take to mitigate the risk.

What are the risks?

The diagram illustrates the interconnected nature of cargo theft and fraud risks. It shows a central circular flow with arrows pointing from one risk to another, including:

- FINANCIAL LOSS TO YOUR COMPANY
- FINANCIAL LOSS TO YOUR CUSTOMERS
- SOCIAL HARM
- REPUTATIONAL DAMAGE
- INCREASED INSURANCE COSTS
- THEFT OF CARGO

Security Bulletins

Freight Crime in Mexican Supply Chains
TT Club and BSI Consulting
2025

Cargo Crime in Gulf Countries and Regional Free Trade Zones
TT CLUB and BSI Connect SCREEN Intelligence

TT **bsi.**

Cargo Theft Reports

BSI Consulting and TT Club 2024 Cargo Theft Report
April 2025

BSI and TT Club 2023 Cargo Theft Report
April 2024

bsi Your partner in progress **TT**

Thank you Any questions?

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