

# Blackbay Reacts to Reports of Christmas Delivery Driver Shortage

Submitted by: Blackbay

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Christmas is a time for giving, but that task might be made even harder this year as reports claim that there will be a shortage of delivery drivers over the holiday period. A Blackbay spokesperson provides their reaction to the news.

The UK logistics industry could be facing its biggest crisis in years due to a driver shortage that is threatening to postpone Christmas for many families across the country. Record 180 million home deliveries have been predicted for November and December, but a lack of drivers means that many of those packages could be left at the warehouse.

The UK Commission for Employment and Skills believes a massive 60,000 drivers are needed if all the demands are to be met, which might be too tall an order. Meanwhile the Freight Transport Association claims that 20,000 drivers have left the profession since September, when a new safety training procedure was implemented by the EU.

It requires drivers to go through 35 hours of training if they want to carry on in their profession, and it costs around £500 to undertake. The rising cost of insurance premiums is also seen as an issue which is putting employers off from recruiting young people.

“Of course it’s always terrible to hear of driver shortages and the potential for packages to go undelivered, especially at this time of year,” commented a spokesperson for Blackbay, a leading provider of mobility solutions for the transport and logistics industry. “This just isn’t the news that people want to be reading about as they get ready for the busy holiday period.

“While there’s a lot of trepidation surrounding Christmas this year, you can be sure that Blackbay is focusing on making sure delivery companies have all the technology they need to provide goods across the UK and around the world. We provide several methods, such as real-time track and trace processes, scheduling capabilities and more, which ensure the practice of delivery is as efficient and cost-effective as possible.”

Blackbay is the leading provider of mobility enabled solutions (<http://www.blackbay.com/>) for the transport and logistics industry. The company’s configurable end-to-end products ensure first time, on time, every time delivery by connecting the shipper, operations, management, drivers and crucially the customer with real-time information and flexible workflows to create smarter delivery companies. Blackbay, headquartered in London, operates across APAC, EMEA and the USA, supporting over 145,000 drivers delivering in excess of 6 million deliveries per day.