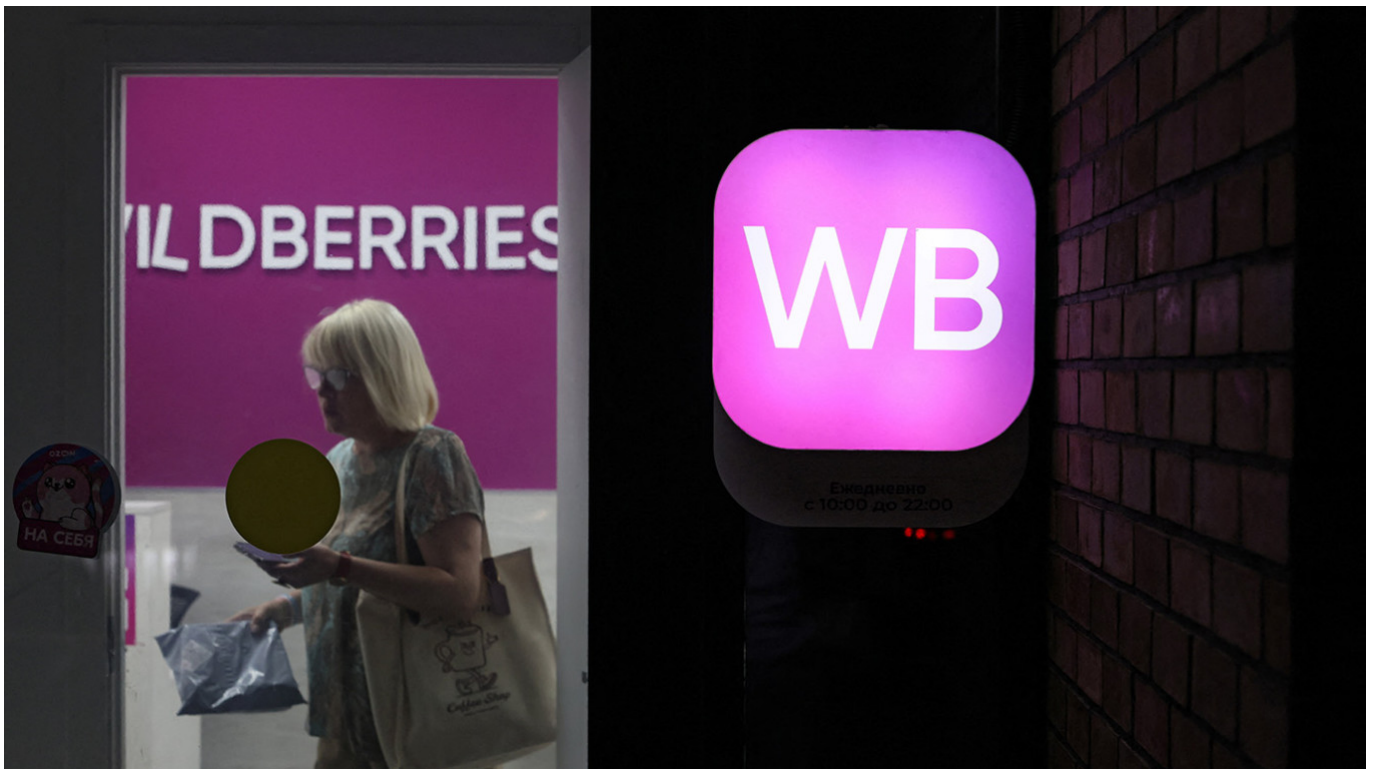


Wildberries Freezes Loan Repayments for Merchants After Drone Strikes

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REUTERS / Anastasia Barashkova

E-commerce giant Wildberries [announced](#) Friday that it has frozen loan repayments for small and medium-sized businesses whose inventory was destroyed in recent Ukrainian drone attacks on its warehouses.

The three-month payment pause will apply automatically through the company's in-house financial services through the end of October. The relief builds on existing financial support provided through the retailer's parent company Wildberries & Russ (RWB).

Wildberries previously [announced](#) a broader merchant relief package, including reduced storage fees, promotional discounts for select products and waived regional transit charges.

On Thursday, RWB [said](#) that around 88,000 individual merchants began receiving the first tranche of compensation payments for products destroyed during a Ukrainian attack on its fulfillment center in the Moscow region.

However, some merchants have [complained](#) online that the payouts fell well short of the value of their lost goods, according to an analysis of seller chat groups by the exiled news outlet Agentstvo.

Related article: [At Least 6 Dead After Ukrainian Drones Hit Wildberries Warehouses and Industrial Facility](#)

The Moscow region fulfillment center was among the first Wildberries facilities [hit last Saturday](#). A wave of subsequent strikes has targeted multiple other warehouses, knocking out an estimated 10% of the company's logistics capacity, Kommersant reported.

Ukraine has accused Wildberries of supplying the Russian military with drone parts and other equipment. The company has denied the claim.

Wildberries CEO Tatyana Kim, Russia's wealthiest woman, promised financial aid to the families of employees killed or injured in the attacks.

Just days before the strikes began, Wildberries [updated](#) its merchant agreement to exempt itself from financial liability for products damaged or destroyed in missile and drone attacks. Other Russian e-commerce platforms have since done the same.

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