

# SMART DRIVING CARS



<http://smartdrivingcar.com/DSRC?-112016>

**Sunday, November 20, 2016**

## **EE**Times [DSRC's 'Dead End,' Says Qualcomm Exec](#)

J. Yoshida, Nov 15, "...Qualcomm's pending takeover of NXP Semiconductors isn't making the path to V2X any clearer.

NXP remains a staunch advocate for DSRC-based V2X (as demonstrated via truck platooning on Munich roads last week during Electronica). Qualcomm, a leading voice and force behind the progress of the cellular standards, is sticking to its cellular radio technology-based V2X evolution...We see this as a continued cellular revolution with new elements coming in... " [Read more](#) *Hmmm...V2X is important, but primarily as a complement to vehicle-centered automated collision avoidance and not as a centralized orchestration of individual vehicles. Finally seeing this as: "We see this as a continued cellular revolution with new elements coming in..." may bring some reality to V2X. Alain*

## **e**WEEK [NXP Unveils New Technologies for Autonomous Vehicles](#)

J. Burf, Nov 08, "...At the Electronica show in Germany this week, NXP official unveiled a new automotive radar microcontroller (MCU) that they said is four times faster than its predecessor in making safety-related decisions such as collision avoidance, lane changing and automatic braking. In addition, the company demonstrated a vehicle-to-everything (V2X) communications solution designed to enable the platooning of autonomous trucks....The group, which includes the scientific organization TNO and vehicle company Ricardo, is now working on technologies that will reduce the minimum distance between trucks by 40 percent—to 0.3 seconds, or almost 23 feet at about 50 mp..." [Read more](#) *Hmmm...And the reason to have trucks operate at such a short headway is?? The aerodynamics aren't worth the risk and it won't save DSRC. Wouldn't it be better to perfect Automated Collision Avoidance (ACA) so that trucks no longer cause crashes rather than freak-out everybody by having them so close together. Just because you might be able to do it is not reason enough. Alain*

### [SmartShuttle: Sion's driverless bus system](#)

T. Waldow, Nov 4, "For the first time in Switzerland, autonomous shuttles are running in a city centre and moving passengers as part of the existing transport system. The two shuttles, created by the French manufacturer Navya are part of the project lead by PostBus and bringing together the Swiss Federal Institute of Technology Lausanne and BestMile..Read more Hmmm...And the reason to ave trucks operate at such a short headway is?? The aerodynamics aren't worth it and it won't save DSRC. Wouldn't it be better to perfect Automated Collision Avoidance (ACA) so that trucks no longer cause crashes rather than freak-out everybody by having them so close together. Just because you might be able to do it is not reason enough. Alain." [Read more](#) *Hmmm...Another low-speed shuttle test in a largely restricted area. This is prudent progress. Alain*



### [Biggest Spike in Traffic Deaths in 50 Years? Blame Apps](#)

N. Boudette, Nov 15, "...A passenger in one car, a teenager, recorded a [Snapchat video showing her vehicle traveling](#) at 115 m.p.h. just before the collision....Insurance companies, which closely track auto accidents, are convinced that the increasing use of electronic devices while driving is the biggest cause of the rise in road fatalities, according to Robert Gordon, a senior vice president of the Property Casualty Insurers Association of America..." [Read more](#) *Hmmm...Duh! Are you sure??? We need to perfect Automated Collision Avoidance Systems! **And** have insurance companies offer two prices for insurance: one with and one without ACAS as they do when they offer home-owners insurance with and without 'knob & tube wiring'. Also... Why does NHTSA allow car manufacturers to have speedometer dials that display speeds up to 160 mph?? Talk about a false sense of performance which is being implied. No wonder millennials are taking those Snapchats. Alain*



### [Trade group urges Trump to revise auto emissions rules](#)

D. Shepardson, Nov 10, "A major auto trade group on Thursday urged President-elect Donald Trump's transition team to revise fuel efficiency mandates that could cost them billions of dollars and called for a full-scale review of the Obama administration's autonomous vehicle policies....[Read more](#) *Hmmm...???? See also [Automotive News](#) and [Detroit News](#). Alain*



### [Tesla's Autopilot chip supplier NVIDIA on new self-driving system: 'It's basically 5 yrs ahead and coming in 2017'](#)

F. Lambert, Nov 11, "NVIDIA reported its financial results for the last quarter yesterday and surprised Wall Street. The chip maker, which is now becoming an "AI company" according to its leadership, reported revenue of \$2 billion on expectations of \$1.7 billion and they also surpassed earnings expectations by a similar margin.

On a conference call with CEO Jen-Hsun Huang following the results, analysts were particularly interested in the company's push in AI and the automotive industry, especially since Tesla's started delivering every single one of its vehicles with NVIDIA's Drive PX2 supercomputer..."

[Read more](#) *Hmmm...Impressive! Alain*

### **Center for American Progress** [The Impact of Vehicle Automation on Carbon Emissions](#)

M. Alexander, Nov. 18, "...To that end, the Center for American Progress reviewed the existing literature on the environmental impacts of automation in the light-duty vehicle sector. We found that existing research does not draw clear and consistent conclusions about the impact of autonomous vehicles on the environment generally and climate specifically. In particular, the research reviewed shows that:..." [Read more](#) *Hmmm...I am thrilled that right up front they emphasize that it makes an enormous difference if 'Self-driving' are being consumed by individuals rather than 'Driverless' fleet vehicles where rides are shared. Alain*

### **FORTUNE**

#### [BMW and Baidu Just Called Off Their Autonomous Car Partnership](#)

Reuters, Nov 18, "... The two companies decided to end the cooperation, which involved testing in the United States and China, because they held different opinions on how to proceed with research, BMW's China CEO Olaf Kastner told Reuters at the Guangzhou auto show, which began on Friday.

"We now have found that the development pace and the ideas of the two companies are a little different," Kastner said, without specifying the exact point of disagreement....[Read more](#) *Hmmm...Very interesting! Alain*

### **South China Morning Post** [Fleet of driverless Baidu cars takes to the road in](#)

#### [Wuzhen](#)

Nov 16, " Baidu Inc, the Chinese internet search giant, has been showing off its new driverless cars, during a trial run in Wuzhen in Zhejiang province, the eastern river township which is hosting this week's World Internet Conference.

Without drivers, a fleet of 18 autonomous vehicles drove along the city's Ziyue Road, as a demonstration for the technology gurus arriving from around the globe for the three-day event, which started on Wednesday. The cars will be available for delegates to try out throughout the week....Besides their guest passengers, **the cars' drivers' seats were occupied by monitoring staff to ensure safety...**[Read more](#) *Hmmm...The hype continues. These are 'Self-driving' NOT 'Driverless' since: "the cars' drivers' seats were occupied by monitoring staff to ensure safety". Alain*



[Before you hit send on that text, you might want to make sure the person you're sending it to isn't driving](#)

F. Kumkle, Nov 10, "Before you hit send on that next text, you might want to make sure the person you're sending it to isn't driving. Under a novel legal theory on distracted driving moving through the courts, a person who texts a driver could be held liable for a crash, too.

The idea that the sender is no less responsible than the driver first surfaced in New Jersey. Now it's being tested in a lawsuit arising from a fatal crash in western Pennsylvania that prompted lawmakers to impose stricter penalties for distracted driving. Gov. Tom Wolf (D) [signed a measure into law](#) last week that could add five years behind bars for a driver involved in a fatal crash who was texting and driving..." [Read more](#) *Hmmm... Interesting! Alain*



[Engineer in Hoboken Train Crash Had Undiagnosed Sleep Disorder,](#)

[Lawyer Says](#)

E. Fitzsimmons, Nov 16, "...Senator Robert Menendez, Democrat of New Jersey, said he had been briefed by the safety board and the railroad administration about the Hoboken investigation on Wednesday. If the train's engineer had a chronic condition that contributed to the crash, he said in a statement, it would reinforce the need for a safety technology, known as positive train control, that can automatically stop or slow a speeding train..." [Read more](#) *Hmmm... Bob, Why wasn't that done years ago???* Alain



**Two New Reports from Karen Kockelman and the team at UT Center for Transportation Research,**

- [Implications of Connected and Automated Vehicles on the Safety and Operations of Roadway Networks: A Final Report](#) U. of Texas, Center for Transportation Research, FHWA/TX-16/0-6849-1, Oct 2016
- [Best Practices Guidebook for Preparing Texas for Connected & Automated Vehicles](#) U. of Texas, Center for Transportation Research 0-6849-P1, Oct 2016

*Hmmm... Haven't had a chance to go through them in detail, but they look very good and are very timely; however, the concept of 'Connected' is in flux and, at least from my perspective, is evolving to be one in support of automation rather than and alternative to automation. As such the titles should use 'ACV' rather than 'CAV' (not a big deal). More importantly, trying to put all of 'Automation' in one category is challenging. There is such an enormous difference between 'Automated Collision Avoidance' (Safety), 'Self-driving' (Personal Utility) and 'Driverless' (Equity) that not highlighting the differences is unfortunate. Alain*

## Automotive News [Mobility trend could spell trouble for dealers](#)

A. Wilson, Nov. 21, "The single biggest risk to franchised dealerships in the next 10 years is a potential change in vehicle ownership patterns as self-driving cars and mobility services converge, says a consultant hired by the National Automobile Dealers Association to study the future of auto retailing.... His other conclusions:

[Read more](#) *Hmmm... 'Self-driving' cars will be great for dealers. Everyone will want one. 'Driverless'...will never make it to the dealerships. Fleet operators will scoop them up. Consumers won't bother buying them. Alain*

### [On the More Technical Side](#)

<http://orfe.princeton.edu/~alaink/SmartDrivingCars/Papers/>

K. Kockelman, et al. [Implications of Connected and Automated Vehicles on the Safety and Operations of Roadway Networks: A Final Report](#) Oct 2016

K. Kockelman, et al. [Best Practices Guidebook for Preparing Texas for Connected & Automated Vehicles](#) U. of Texas, Center for Transportation Research 0-6849-P1, Oct 2016

### [Jobs](#)

[https://nrel.wd5.myworkdayjobs.com/en-US/NREL/job/CO---Golden/Transportation-Behavior-Analyst\\_R1580](https://nrel.wd5.myworkdayjobs.com/en-US/NREL/job/CO---Golden/Transportation-Behavior-Analyst_R1580)

[https://nrel.wd5.myworkdayjobs.com/en-US/NREL/job/CO---Golden/Transportation-Data-Project-Leader\\_R1582](https://nrel.wd5.myworkdayjobs.com/en-US/NREL/job/CO---Golden/Transportation-Data-Project-Leader_R1582)

[https://nrel.wd5.myworkdayjobs.com/en-US/NREL/job/CO---Golden/Postdoctoral-Researcher-Transportation-Data-and-Analysis\\_R1574](https://nrel.wd5.myworkdayjobs.com/en-US/NREL/job/CO---Golden/Postdoctoral-Researcher-Transportation-Data-and-Analysis_R1574)

[Half-baked stuff that probably doesn't deserve your time:](#)



[Elon Musk shows how Tesla self-driving cars will be fun and easy](#)

A. Strange, Nov 19, ".. The first video, set to the theme song of The Benny Hill Show takes us on a ride with a self-driving Tesla as the passenger sits in the driver's seat, hands on his lap and feet away from the gas and brake pedals..." [Read more](#) *Hmmm...See the video as well as [the one on the Tesla site](#). See also [electrek](#). The videos are impressive; however, this is VERY serious business. Why make it into a circus with the choice of music?? Also, somehow 'fun' doesn't seem to be the right word to use to characterize self-driving. **'Really safe and lets you do what you'd rather do without worry'** seems to be a much better characterization if and when it actually works. Or, does this mean that it doesn't really work well enough yet so let's brain wash folks to think that it's fun; else, you'll be holding your breath while totally terrorized the whole way. Alain*



[Hyperloop One releases “comprehensive concept design” for high-speed rail in Dubai](#)

M. Geuss, Nov. 10, "startup Hyperloop One announced that it had signed a deal with Dubai's Roads and Transport Authority (RTA) to conduct a number of feasibility studies on potential Hyperloop routes in the United Arab Emirates (UAE). Earlier this year, the company agreed to develop a Hyperloop cargo offloader at the port and later received \$50 million from Dubai's port operator, DP World. These new feasibility studies commissioned by RTD seem aimed at transporting humans as well as cargo, however...." [Read more](#) *Hmmm...See the video. Best part is that it has PRT systems at both ends to Hyperloop capsules. Capacity in slugs per unit time is what??? I continue to be skeptical. Alain*

Calendar of Upcoming Events:



[5th Connected & Autonomous Vehicle Symposium](#)  
[December 8-9, 2016](#)  
[Brooklyn, NY](#)