Robotic transport of the future

Connected and autonomous vehicle (CAV) demonstration

Friday 4th to Sunday 6th August 2017

Whether the future will see us living in cities, on the land or on another planet, we will soon have robots to take us from place to place.

Today you can meet four different robots, climb inside them, be driven around Millennium Square by a driverless pod and chat to experts from two projects working on developing robots which will drive themselves.

Explore the implications of the coming autonomous vehicle (AV) revolution and how the technology works.

Sensors are key to how AVs work

See an autonomous pod drive itself around Millennium Square. You could get a chance to have a go – limited places.

Watch a smart car steer around obstacles using AV technology!

Check out the Venturer WildCat autonomous test vehicle and learn about its many sensors and how it drives itself.

Come up and speak to a friendly humanoid robot called Pepper! It responds to human emotions.

You can make a scribble drawn by an autonomous robot. Join the conversation about driver-less technologies of the future and ask an expert.

Tweet the event: #futuremobility

Find out about other: What If events – www.at-brisol.org
What is an autonomous vehicle?
An autonomous vehicle (AV) uses sensors and software to drive itself. It won’t just be cars - they’ll be AV flying drones, vans and lorries, cars and boats. They will change the way we move goods and people around.

When will they arrive?
They’re already here and being tested in many countries. Currently, they have a test driver in the vehicle to monitor them, but shortly they’ll carry passengers on their own. AVs won’t arrive overnight – there’s likely to be a transition from vehicles that are more connected to full AVs. This transition will be well underway within 15 years.

How do AVs drive safely
AVs need to be constantly aware of their environments. AVs have sensors which substitute for our own human senses. These sensors scan the space around vehicle and its software make decisions about how the AV can safely move.

Will they be safe?
It is expected that AVs will be safer than human driven vehicles - AVs do not get tired and lose concentration. AVs are undergoing extensive safety testing in different environments. There will be new laws and safety standards on AVs.

What changes could we see in Bristol
AVs will bring new transport choices to people who may not be able to drive - older / younger people and disabled people.

AVs could be shared vehicles or part of car clubs. This could take a lot of vehicles and traffic off the road. There could be less parking in the street, but there will be new depots where AVs are parked between journeys.

Will I have to use an AV?
Don’t worry – human-driven cars will be around for many years, but may eventually become a rare sight on the streets of Bristol!

The West of England and AVs
The global race is on to develop AVs and bring them to market. Experts predict CAVs could generate £51 billion in benefits for the UK economy by 2030. Our region, with its strength in aerospace and advanced engineering, is well placed to benefit and is participating in AV projects, including Venturer.

Look out for events and follow Venturer online.

Interested in studying robotics?
The city’s two universities have set up the Bristol Robotics Laboratory and you can speak to people from the Lab about how they got into robotics and AVs.

The Gateway Project - is looking at how freight and people could be moved by AV. Thanks to Gateway for the use of their AV pod and their support for this event.

Find out more about AV sensors at the Wildcat test AV

Illustration of person pointing at a retro-car “WOW - look at that – a human-driven car!” Bristol 2037
Person 2 – “can’t remember when I last saw one”.

Ask a boffin (question mark symbols)
Look out for people in the red Venturer T-shirts. They are working on developing AVs. Ask them any questions you have.
More FAQS at: www.venturer-cars.com

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