



T: 0300 244 4000
E: scottish.ministers@gov.scot

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CAV Scotland Event – 31 October & 1 November 2018

In Scotland, the deployment of Connected and Autonomous Vehicles (CAV) will bring transformative change to peoples' lives, not just in how we travel, but in how we work, where we live, the environment, and safety. As Cabinet Secretary for Transport, Infrastructure and Connectivity I intend Scotland to be at the forefront of these technologies as they are developed and implemented.

I want to be clear that Scotland is very much open for business for trials of connected and autonomous vehicles and invite you to participate in Transport Scotland's inaugural **CAV Scotland Event in Edinburgh on 31 October and 1 November 2018** as a demonstrator, speaker, exhibitor or sponsor. The CAV Scotland event will include a conference in a theatre setting, a range of exhibition opportunities, and roads for live vehicle demonstrators.

Scotland wishes to support and contribute to the testing of driverless vehicles on Scottish roads and CAV Scotland provides an opportunity for leading motor manufacturers, suppliers of autonomous vehicles, regulators, innovators, business leaders, academics and those already involved with CAV development around the world to debate Scotland's role in developing and deploying autonomous vehicle technology.

Scotland can offer a uniquely diverse test bed for CAV. Scotland's Trunk Road network provides a huge range of road environments, from the 10 lane urban motorway on M8 through and around Glasgow and Scotland's first SMART connected corridor on the iconic M90 Queensferry Crossing corridor, to a wide range of roads in more remote rural areas, which act as both strategic and local roads, connecting communities, providing life-line transport links, and where cellular and digital communications are often challenging due to terrain and geography.

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CAV Scotland will enable us to learn from your experiences and capabilities in the CAV sector and explore how Scotland can provide opportunities for tests, demonstrator and pilot autonomous vehicle trials, to act as a catalyst to more detailed trials of CAV technology in Scotland, including live tests on Scottish roads, and to consider what Scotland has to offer in terms of a 'living lab' to support the development of future intelligent mobility solutions.

With the potential to become an annual event, CAV Scotland can provide on-going opportunities to bring together leaders in connected and autonomous vehicle technologies in Scotland and link with wider Intelligent Mobility initiatives and the Electric Vehicle industry.

Transport Scotland intends CAV Scotland to be free-to-attend in order to maximise its appeal and ensure the widest possible attendance and participation in the event. Attracting world class and industry-leading speakers, demonstrators and exhibitors will also be vital in securing both the success of the event and the maximum possible benefits in terms of learning and the exchange of ideas and views.

CAV Scotland will be co-located with the well-established Road Expo Scotland event at the Royal Highland Centre in Edinburgh. In 2017, over 1200 people attended Road Expo Scotland over the two days of the event.

I very much hope you will be able to join us on 31 October and 1 November to contribute to the growth of the CAV sector in Scotland and globally.

Yours sincerely



MICHAEL MATHESON

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St Andrew's House, Regent Road, Edinburgh EH1 3DG
www.gov.scot

