45th International Vienna Motor Symposium:

Autonomous driving: Safety is non-negotiable

Experts in Vienna discuss collaborative approaches on how to manage safety challenges.

Next to the major topics of energy scarcity and emission-free powertrains, autonomous driving is an important pillar in the debate on future mobility. On this year's 45th anniversary, the International Vienna Motor Symposium taking place from April 24th to 26th will focus on autonomous vehicles in collaboration with "The Autonomous", founded by TTTech Auto in 2019, in an effort to identify the remaining challenges to getting these on the road safely.

"The latest events and accidents demonstrate that individual approaches in autonomous driving are not fully developed yet. There is, however, an urgent need to address future-proof mobility concepts with innovations and useful projects", says **Bernhard Geringer**, Chairman of the Austrian Society of Automotive Engineers (ÖVK) and organiser of the International Vienna Motor Symposium. "The purpose of the symposium is not just to bring the urgent energy debate and the impact of energy sources on future powertrains to the limelight, but to also provide room for autonomous driving. Together with the experts of TTTech Auto and The Autonomous, we intend to discuss the current challenges and latest technologies with our expert audience."

Artificial intelligence and the path toward more road safety

This year's symposium aims at addressing the most pressing challenges facing the automobile sector today. The discussion around autonomous driving will focus on the latest ADAS systems, autonomy, and safety. The Autonomous has developed an integrative network of leading automobile makers, technology suppliers, disruptors, universities, and government institutions to encourage inter-company cooperation.

"The autonomous driving industry is now at an important crossroads, struggling with enormous challenges and suffering setbacks, despite comprehensive test efforts", stresses **Ricky Hudi**, Chairman of The Autonomous. "Safety continues to be the most important issue regarding the use of autonomous vehicles, but the consensus on how safety can be effectively measured both for autonomous systems and human drivers is still an industry-wide endeavour. Safety is non-negotiable, and it constitutes the cornerstone of our involvement. We have committed ourselves to fostering collaboration between leading global companies in the AV sector in order to address the most pressing challenges in the areas of architecture, artificial intelligence, and regulation in autonomous mobility."

First panel on autonomous driving

Together with TTTech Auto co-founder and Chief Technology Officer Stefan Poledna, Ricky Hudi will be hosting a panel on autonomous driving at this year's International Vienna Motor Symposium for the first time. Panel participants will include Ralf Herrtwich, NVIDIA, Benedikt Wolfers, PSWP and Alejandro Vukotich, Qualcomm CDMA Technologies.

For further information, visit https://wiener-motorensymposium.at/ and https://oevk.at/

Short info on the Austrian Society of Automotive Engineers
The Austrian Society of Automotive Engineers (ÖVK) was founded in 1985 and has 750 ordinary members. Its objective is to promote the useful application of automotive engineering. The ÖVK organises scientific events in an effort to enhance and promote the level of knowledge among mechanical engineering experts and other relevant target groups. The International Vienna Motor Symposium was initiated by Professor Hans Peter Lenz. It took place for the first time in 1979 and has been organised by ÖVK since 1985. Professor Dr. Bernhard Geringer has been the Chairman of the ÖVK since 2017.

Short info on The Autonomous
The Autonomous is the global community shaping the future of safe autonomous mobility. Initiated by TTTech Auto in 2019, The Autonomous is an open platform building an ecosystem of all actors involved in the development of safe autonomous mobility. Ecosystem partners range from car manufacturers, technology suppliers and regulatory authorities to disruptors, thought leaders, academia, and government institutions. The goal of The Autonomous is to generate new knowledge and technological solutions in the field of autonomous mobility, thus accelerating the transition to market readiness and series development of safe self-driving vehicles. To accomplish this, The Autonomous has established two strategic streams:

- **Event Stream** – facilitates insightful discussions and networking opportunities for leading executives and experts from the autonomous mobility ecosystem.
- **Innovation Stream –** fosters cooperation across the industry, nurturing the development of globally recognized reference solutions for safety challenges. These reference solutions align with relevant standards, serving as a catalyst for the widespread adoption of safe autonomous mobility on a global scale. As part of the Innovation Stream, The Autonomous launches and facilitates Working Groups and Expert Circles to develop pre-competitive concepts, concrete technical solutions, best practices, and recommendations in key areas of autonomous driving – from E/E architectures and artificial intelligence to regulatory frameworks and societal acceptance.

The findings of The Autonomous Innovation Stream are presented yearly at **The Autonomous Main Event**.