

Last Week In Innovative Mobility

July 3 - July 9, 2023



AUTOMATED VEHICLES

Zoox, an Amazon owned automated vehicle (AV) company, begins testing their AV in Las Vegas, Nevada. Initially, the vehicle will transport Zoox employees around a one-mile loop near the Las Vegas Zoox office. The vehicle can hold a maximum of four people, travel up to 35 miles per hour, and does not have a steering wheel or pedals.



AUTOMATED VEHICLES

Volkswagen deploys electric, ID Buzz AVs in Austin, Texas. The vehicles are equipped with Mobileye AV technology but will have a safety operator in the vehicle during the initial testing phases. Volkswagen expects to have 10 AVs operating in Austin by the end of 2023 and operate in four other cities within three years.



AUTOMATED VEHICLES

City officials in Beijing, China are allowing AV companies to operate as taxis without a human operator on board. The AV companies must apply for a permit and can only operate the AVs within a 500 square kilometer (roughly a 193 square mile) area. Beijing has been a host to 116 AVs through a trial program since March 2023.



ELECTRIC VEHICLES

The California Air Resources Board (CARB) reaches an agreement with the Truck and Engine Manufacturers Association on emission standards. The agreement is known as the Clean Truck Partnership and truck manufacturers in the partnership agree to develop and sell zero-emission trucks according to CARB's standards, even if CARB's more stringent emission standards are challenged. This partnership includes eight major heavy-duty vehicle manufacturers.



ELECTRIC VEHICLES

Mercedes-Benz announces that it will make its electric vehicles (EVs) with Tesla's North American Charging Standard (NACS) charging plug, starting with model year 2025. The manufacturer will make available an adapter for current EV owners to use NACS plugs in 2024. Mercedes-Benz also plans to open over 2,500 charging stations in North America starting in October 2023.



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