

Last Week In Innovative Mobility

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AUTOMATED VEHICLES

Waymo reports that their automated vehicles (AVs) are 200 to 350% safer on the road compared to human drivers. Waymo finds that when comparing the 14.8 million miles completed by their AVs to a human driver, Waymo AVs had 30 fewer injury-causing accidents. Additionally, Waymo claims to have had 32 fewer police-reported incidents compared to a human driver.

AUTOMATED VEHICLES

Cruise agrees to pay a \$112,500 settlement to the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) to avoid litigation over various accidents in 2023. CPUC reports that Cruise is restoring public trust, increasing transparency, and agrees to share monthly incident reports through the settlement. This agreement opens the possibility for Cruise to resume AV operations in California.



AUTOMATED VEHICLES

AV companies such as Waabi and Wayve receive investments for integrating artificial intelligence (AI) into AV technology. Experts suggest that AI requires less training data than the machine learning techniques that are currently employed for AV operations. Additionally, the decisions made by AI systems are easier to interpret and trace compared to current technologies.



ELECTRIC VEHICLES

China announces it will invest over \$800 million in the development of solid-state batteries for electric vehicles (EVs). Solid-state batteries are expected to have a longer lifespan and be less likely to catch fire compared to the existing lithium batteries used in EVs. However, experts suggest that there is still much testing to be done with solid-state batteries before they can be mass produced.



ELECTRIC VEHICLES

One expert explains how EVs play a role in the management of the electric grid. EVs can be programmed such that they only charge at home when there is grid capacity or power the home when the grid has peaked. In California, a proposal has been made to the CPUC to allow electricity companies to pay customers for using their EV batteries to support grid operations.



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Innovative Mobility Research (IMR) focuses on the future of mobility and is based at the Transportation Sustainability Research Center at the University of California, Berkeley

