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Bringing Computing To The Car: Connected Vehicles A Focus At CES

Written by **Martin Kovacs** | 08/01/2015 | 20:36 | Category: **NEWS**

Vehicle manufacturers have been active at CES 2015, with the focus on the connected car greater than ever, and the push to development of the fully autonomous vehicle also a clear trend.

Computing is moving to the car at a rapid pace, with the technology on display at CES indicative of the connected future.

Nvidia has launched its **Tegra X1 "mobile super chip"**, containing over one teraflops of processing power, and which will feature in its newly announced Drive car computers, Drive PX and Drive CX, and, as noted by Jen-Hsun Huang, Nvidia CEO and co-founder, mobile supercomputing is set to be "central to tomorrow's car".



"With vast arrays of cameras and displays, cars of the future will see and increasingly understand their surroundings," Huang observed.

Among the manufacturers attending CES, Audi has been demonstrating its entertainment, connect, control and display concepts.

"Digitalisation and networking in all areas are the mega-trends of the present," Prof. Dr Ulrich Hackenberg, Audi board member for technical development, noted of the focus for manufacturers.

"The car is becoming a mobile device on four wheels. Connectivity is the key to the future and a crucial area of our development work."

Among the Audi tech on display has been the Audi tablet, expressly designed for use in-car, debuting in the new Audi **Q7**.

The tablet, designed to provide mobile rear-seat entertainment, features a 10.1" display, and connects itself to the on-board infotainment and navigation system via WLAN.

Ford has also been active at CES, showcasing its recently released **Sync 3 in-dash communications and entertainment system**, launched late last year.

Featuring a new touchscreen, Sync 3 has been designed to deliver an experience similar to a smartphone or tablet, while fine-tuned voice-activation technology means the number of steps needed to carry out a voice command has been reduced.

"Sync 3 is another step forward in delivering connectivity features customers most want, and they tell us this kind of technology is an important part of their decision to buy our vehicles," Raj Nair, Ford chief technical officer and group vice president, Global Product Development, noted of customers' desire for connectivity.

Both Audi and Ford are also working towards the development of autonomous vehicles.

Audi has used CES to demonstrate its Audi A7 piloted driving concept, utilising various production-ready sensors as well as sensors integrated into production vehicles today to detect the vehicle's surroundings.

Ford, meanwhile, states its fully autonomous Ford Fusion Hybrid research vehicle is undergoing road testing, employing the same semi-autonomous technology used in Ford vehicles today, while adding four LiDAR sensors

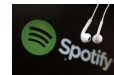


Breaking News



Samsung Galaxy S8 Leaks Ahead Of Launch

The first images of the Samsung Galaxy S8 have leaked, featuring a curved display and reduced bezels due to the lack of a home button.



Spotify Moves On Hi-Fi Streaming

Tidal may not have bragging rights as the only big music streaming service to offer higher-resolution audio content for much longer, with rumors that Spotify is finally ready to unveil its own premium offering.



New iPhone To Sport Curved Screen

Apple has decided to adopt a flexible display for one of its new iPhones, set to be released this year, and has ordered sufficient components to enable mass production, according to US reports.



Nokia Classic Phone Not For Oz

Nokia's about-to-be-released non-smart phone, dubbed the 3310 - which received rave treatment when shown off at this week's Mobile World Congress in Barcelona - is unlikely to be released in Australia, it seems.



Wi-Fi Calling Spreads To More Android Phones - But Not To iOS

Telstra says it has spread its Wi-Fi Calling service, which allows users to make calls anywhere there's an accessible Wi-Fi service, to several more Android devices.



OZ To Get LG G6 Smartphone Ahead Of US + Europe

Unlike the past, LG is moving heaven and earth to be at the head of the queue with the launch of the LG G6 set to happen on March 28th right after the Korean launch.



Google Celebrates 10M Cardboard VR Shipments

Google has announced in a blog post today that the company's low-cost Google Cardboard VR has shipped to more than 10 million customers worldwide.

to generate a real-time 3D map of the surrounding environment.

The vehicle senses objects around it using the LiDAR sensors, using advanced algorithms to help it learn to predict where vehicles and pedestrians might move.

Mercedes, also, has been demonstrating its research into autonomous vehicles, in the form of the F 015 Luxury in Motion.

Mercedes states a key aspect of the research vehicle is the continuous exchange of information between vehicle, passengers and the outside world, facilitated by six display screens integrated into the instrument panel and the rear and side panels, turning the F 015's interior into a "digital arena".

Passengers can interact intuitively with the connected vehicle through gestures, eye-tracking, or by touching the high-resolution screens, while, by employing laser projection and LED displays, the F 015 establishes contact with the outside world.



Google Giving Up On Chromebooks To Focus On Pixel

While companies like Acer and Samsung look to be making steady progress with cementing Chromebooks in the education market, Google themselves might be ready to throw in the towel.



Control4 Acquires Speaker Brand

Control4 has forked out US\$9.6M in cash to buy the Triad speaker brand.



BREAKING NEWS: Amazon Takes Retailers Down, Netflix Also Struggling

Several Australian retailers whose operations run on the giant Amazon web servers are today facing possible outages after the global cloud service operators servers crashed.

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