

Comment from Daniel Hellebuyck

To Whom it May Concern:

I want to voice my opposition to GM's petition for placing automated vehicles on public roadways that do not have a driver, as well as a steering wheel, brake pedal or accelerator pedal.

In my opinion, this petition is the height of irresponsibility on the part of General Motors. In a race to be first with self-driving automation (which most people have no interest in), this corporation is risking the lives of innocent drivers, passengers, and pedestrians on our nation's roadways.

It is not too hard to see how this technology could lead to chaos on our roadways:

+ What if the vehicle runs out of fuel or otherwise stops in the middle of a highway during rush hour? There would be no way-without a steering wheel to push the vehicle to the side of the roadway to let traffic pass without the use of a tow truck. This would create a traffic hazard.

+ What if a passenger has to get to a safe place in an emergency situation (e.g. a medial emergency or a potential crime)?

There would be no way to safely navigate the vehicle to a safe haven or out of harms way.

+Of course, there is the inevitable danger of the vehicle being hacked. Passengers would be at the mercy of the hacked computer with no way to slow down or stop the vehicle.

This unproven technology has been prematurely heralded as a way to save lives since it is theorized that computers will be much safer "drivers" than humans. If safety-and not profit and "bragging rights"- are truly the goal if this technology, would not the best course of action be to have as many redundant controls as possible (including a steering wheel and brake pedal at the minimum)?

Thank you for reading my comments.

Sincerely Yours,

Daniel E. Hellebuyck