Thomas Zellmer - Comments

Autonomous vehicles are the flying cars of the 1960's. Stop wasting money on this research. You can build a system that can stay in it's lane on a highway. You cannot build a system that will exit the highway and drive in an urban setting or in a construction zone. Why have a system that will always require an operator in the vehicle? Do we fly passenger jets without pilots? Do we navigate ships on the ocean without people in control on the bridge. You cannot replace the operator.

Niagara Water runs automated fork lifts to load trucks in a controlled warehouse environment; no rain, no snow, no wind, no other vehicles that are not on the same system. They have one control person overseeing the warehouse; no urgency to fix a lift that has stalled in an intersection, no lifts traveling at 70mph.

Can you autonomously slow passenger trains to posted speed limits? The variables increase with two way traffic,not controlled by iron tracks. The sensors needed in uncontrolled highway settings are beyond the scope of machines and human engineering.

Do we know how birds flock and turn in unison? Humans move vehicles though traffic circles with relative ease. Jesus Christ's creation of avian ballet, and infinite sensing and processing of the human mind, should leave us in a state of awe and wonder; not hubris. We cannot improve God's creation. We cannot match human skill and speed with mechanical engineering. Science fiction is entertainment. Popular Mechanics is entertainment. Human operators are reality.