Comment from Neal Sidhwaney

In response to your ANPRM for testing ADS-DV compliance with federal regulations, I am sending comments based on my experience participating in self-driving car development.

I am a former employee of Alphabet (Waymo's parent company), although I do not speak for my past employers, and all opinions are my own.

You may not know this, but another Alphabet subsidiary, Verily, develops a "smart" lens technology, which are contact lenses & glasses with embedded circuits. These circuits can transmit a video feed of what the wearer is seeing 24/7. The relevant aspect of this is that people who are generating test data while driving on the road are wearing these lenses, and the video feed is analyzed and correlated with decisions made during driving as part of the input to training self driving cars.

As an ex-employee who is still wearing these lenses and has been helping train self driving cars by participating in scenarios that self driving cars have some trouble with, such as highway onramp merges, sudden lane changes, taillights that just don't look standard (i.e. some cars have brake lights that span the rear end of the car instead of separate ones), or 2+ cars in front of you using their turn signals at the same time, I just want to write and highlight how thorough Waymo is being with all the scenarios.

For example, it is clear that they are exhausting every single manner in which the back of a pickup truck can be loaded, whether it's 1 2x4 piece of wood, an air compressor, a piece of tarp or cloth flapping in the back, or any other sort of load for a pickup truck bed. The models will eventually have all possibilities, as infinite as it seems, and we will be safer for it. Frankly, it'd be a joke otherwise :)

Thank you for helping define the future of transportation and providing a model for the rest of the world to adopt new technology.

Sincerely,

Neal Sidhwaney