

Comment from Joshua Johnston

My concern is that people will not be attentive to the road and their vehicle with this technology at level 4 autonomy. I am a class A driver for an LTL transportation company and I see a lot of carelessness on the road on a daily basis. I drive at night, so it is very easy to see when people are on their smart phone instead of looking at the road. I also see a lot of mistakes that the common driver makes that this technology could help with. It may cut down on speeding or people poorly merging onto the interstate. I have a Bendix Wingman Fusion system in my tractor trailer and it has definitely made me notice some of my bad habits. I wasn't keeping the five seconds following distance that I should have at all times. And if I crossed the line at all I get a very loud alert. And the truck will hit the brakes faster than I possibly could in a bad situation. Its a great system to have and it will prevent accidents, but its also flawed. Reads speed limit signs on side roads and tells me that I am speeding. Picks up lines that are not there and the sensors get covered up easily in bad weather. So my point is that I think that these systems are an excellent tool to help keep drivers safe, but people need to pay attention to the road. These systems are not infallible and accidents could happen if we are not careful. I hope that this technology is introduced slowly and if possible I hope that it can be made to function in a way that forces the driver to keep their eyes on the road. Like giving alerts if your hands are not on the wheel or retinal scanners that some trucking companies use to make sure that their drivers are alert.