LAST WEEK IN INNOVATIVE MOBILITY

February 6th - February 12th, 2017

VEHICLES
Ford becomes the majority shareholder in artificial intelligence startup Argo AI with an investment of $1 billion. Argo AI plans to develop a sensor suite and software for automated vehicles that it will eventually license to other car companies in addition to Ford. The startup was founded by two top engineers from Alphabet’s Waymo and Uber, who were both previously working at Carnegie Mellon’s Robotics Institute.

BIKESHARING
Leading bikesharing operator Motivate merges with technology solutions provider 8D Technologies. Motivate already had existing plans to operate nearly 25,000 bikesharing bikes using 8D technology, by the end of 2017. The merger will streamline the production and operation of bicycles for the upcoming ten-fold expansion of Ford’s GoBike program in the Bay Area, which is managed by Motivate.

RIDESOURCING/TNCS
Uber and Zipcar sign a deal to supply Uber drivers in Boston with Zipcar sedans. Twenty sedans will be available at Uber’s Dorchester office for exclusive use by Boston Uber drivers at a rate of $12 per hour, plus a $7 monthly membership fee. Uber has made similar partnerships with rental car companies Hertz and Enterprise.

RIDESHARING
Waze Carpool expands its pilot program to several counties throughout the San Francisco Bay Area. Since its launch in the Summer 2016, Waze Carpool has been available only in Mountain View and San Francisco. Waze Carpool also announced three new partner organizations: the Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC), the University of California at San Francisco (UCSF), and Kaiser Permanente.

RIDESOURCING/TNCS
Uber introduces a new service in India, called UberHire, which allows users to hire a driver for multiple trips. Uber announced that the service will be piloted in eight cities in India in response to requests from users who wanted to keep the same Uber driver for a number of trips. UberHire users will be charged based on a combination of total distance and duration of their trips, but they can only pay in cash.

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Innovative Mobility Research (IMR) is based at the Transportation Sustainability Research Center (TSRC) at the University of California, Berkeley

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