



AUTOMATED VEHICLES

The Wall Street Journal reports that Volkswagen plans to invest \$1.7 billion in Argo Al, Ford's automated vehicle (AV) subsidiary. Around \$600 million will go toward equity, while \$1.1 billion will go toward research and development. Neither of the companies have commented on the deal. The two are already partnering on midsize trucks and commercial vans.

RIDESOURCING/TNCS

Uber and Lyft may give cash bonuses to drivers for use toward purchasing stock in the two companies' upcoming initial public offerings (IPOs).

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Drivers could choose to keep the money or invest in shares. Bonuses will likely be tiered based on the number of rides completed and/or how long a driver has been working for the company.



CARSHARING

Volvo introduces its new carsharing subsidiary "M." The carsharing company plans to roll out hundreds of subscription-accessible vehicles this spring in the U.S. This move adds yet another automaker to the growing trend of those investing in carsharing services. Existing services include Daimler's car2go and General Motors' Maven.

MICROMOBILITY

Gotcha, a bike- and scooter sharing company centered on college campuses, is adding an electric trike to its fleet. The three-wheeled trike can seat two people, has a top speed of 25 mph, and a range of 40 miles per charge. The device will enter the fleet sometime in 2019. Gotcha indicates the devices will be more durable than the typical electric scooter or bike.





RIDESOURCING/TNCS

Uber is in discussions to buy Careem, a rival Dubai-based ridesourcing company. According to its website, Careem has more than a million drivers and operates in more than 100 cities across the Middle East. Negotiations are ongoing and no final agreements have been reached.

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Innovative Mobility Research (IMR) focuses on the future of mobility and is based at the Transportation Sustainability Research Center at the University of California, Berkeley

