

Last Week In Innovative Mobility

April 15 - April 21, 2019



RIDESOURCING/TNCS



Sony launches taxi-hailing service S.Ride in Japan. S.Ride will first be available in Tokyo, where Sony is partnering with five taxi companies to provide an initial fleet of over 10,000 cabs. Ridesourcing is banned in Japan, so companies like Uber and Lyft must partner with taxi providers if they wish to operate in Japan.

MICROTRANSIT

Volkswagen launches an electric microtransit service MOIA in Hamburg, Germany. The service will initially operate with a fleet of 100 electric minibuses. Passengers request a ride through an app and are directed to a virtual stop within 250 meters of their location. The average trip is intended to cost from six to seven euros per person.



BIKESHARING



Citing problems with braking systems, Lyft removes electric bicycles from three cities. The electric bicycles (e-bikes) have been removed and replaced with traditional bikes for Citi Bike in NYC, Ford GoBike in San Francisco, and Capital Bikeshare in Washington, D.C. Customers reported "stronger than expected braking force on the front wheel."

ELECTRIC VEHICLES

EVgo debuts Autocharge, an automatic charging technology. The technology allows customers to charge without opening an app or accessing a payment card. Autocharge is available to members of Maven Gig, GM's electric carsharing service. EVgo plans to rollout the technology to all EVgo members nationwide by the end of 2019.



AUTOMATED VEHICLES



Aptiv opens an AV mobility center in Shanghai. The center will focus on development and deployment of AV technology on public roads. While the company already has manufacturing and engineering facilities in China, this will be its first effort at AV operations in China. Aptiv currently has AV operations in Boston, Las Vegas, Pittsburgh, and Singapore.

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