



AUTOMATED VEHICLES

Honda Motor Company obtains approval from the Japanese transport ministry to test its automated vehicles (AVs). The vehicles are equipped with Level 3 automation, as defined by SAE International. They can be used in select environments, such as in congestion on highways. Honda plans to release the AVs by March 2021.

AUTOMATED VEHICLES

Walmart Incorporated partners with Cruise for a pilot delivery program in Scottsdale, Arizona. The partnership allows Walmart customers to place a grocery order and have it delivered by one of Cruise's electric, automated Chevy Bolt vehicles. During the pilot, the vehicles will have a safety driver onboard. The fleet size and service area have not been specified yet, but the program is expected to begin in early 2021.





Ford Motor Company is accelerating its investment in and shift to electric vehicle (EV) manufacturing. Ford is investing \$800 million and \$11.5 billion to build new facilities and upgrade existing ones for EVs and to electrify its vehicle models, respectively. The company is also adding 500 employees to help manufacture EVs.



ELECTRIC VEHICLES

Volkswagen raises its planned \$86 billion investment for digital and EV technologies. The company plans on investing this money over the next five years into electric and hybrid vehicles, a software-based vehicle operating system, and automated technologies. Volkswagen is prioritizing software and digitization with this investment.



URBAN AIR MOBILITY

Kawasaki Heavy Industries unveils a motorcycle-sized drone. The K-Racer IV aircraft is designed to be able to travel longer distances at higher speeds and has vertical take off and landing capabilities. The aircraft can be operated autonomously or remotely, both of which have been tested.



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