Almotive, HERE Technologies and Vodafone showcase the future of automated parking

- The three companies develop a scalable automated valet parking solution for closed parking structures.
- The cooperation will bring together different fields of expertise to create scalable ADAS (Advanced Driving Automation Software) technology.
- Implementation of advanced driving automation software works with indoor maps and IoT infrastructure to ensure quick automated parking.

Budapest, Hungary, November 18, 2019 – Almotive, HERE Technologies and Vodafone today announced that they have delivered a scalable automated valet parking solution after nine months of collaboration.

The proof-of-concept solution embedded in several vehicles created through the collaboration serves to showcase the vision of a commercially viable automated valet parking platform. The technology is designed to illustrate a scalable and robust platform that could be licensed by automotive Tier1s and OEMs.

The prototype vehicles are capable of automated valet parking in multiple predetermined parking garages in Budapest. The vehicles’ automated driving capabilities are ensured by Almotive’s aiDrive software stack, while HERE Technologies delivered detailed indoor maps of parking infrastructures. The system is supported by Narrowband-IoT technology provided by Vodafone to communicate free space information to the vehicle.

Maps, including free space information, are downloaded via Vodafone’s mobile network at the entrance of the parking garages. As a result, maps are easy to keep up to date and vehicle owners understand where their vehicles will park before they exit them. The vehicles drive based on parking sensor detections and feature maps to dynamically adapt its trajectory to changing conditions.
“Automated valet parking gives drivers the comfort of not having to waste time finding parking spaces, and also increases the number of vehicles that fit into existing parking infrastructure.” says Peter Kovács, Chief Product Officer at Almotive. “Creating a scalable solution to this automated driving challenge is a vital step on the road to increasing driving automation.”

“There are countless benefits of wireless connectivity in the automotive industry, and this form of valet parking is only one example. After many successful outdoor smart parking pilots, this project will help us test the capability of our NB-IoT solutions in underground garages and gain essential experience with the transportation of the future by the time 5G technology arrives,” said István Király, Vodafone Business Unit Director at Vodafone Hungary.

“Traffic congestion and rare parking space are some of the most relevant issues inner-cities are facing today,” said Knuth Sexauer, Senior Director Sales EMEAR Automotive at HERE Technologies. “This showcase underlines the power of experts partnering to take on big tasks – and to use technology to make our lives better.”

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About Almotive:

Almotive is one of the largest independent teams in the world working on automated driving technologies. Developing self-driving software, proprietary simulation tools and neural network acceleration hardware IP, Almotive is building an ecosystem to aid the deployment of automated driving. To catalyse industry collaboration the Almotive product suite is scalable, modular and hardware agnostic.

Almotive builds on its expertise in artificial intelligence, sensor fusion, 3D graphics and real world self-driving workloads to support its partners in realizing their self-driving goals. Practical experience from the company’s global test fleet is utilized to create a scalable automated driving roadmap enabling solutions from ADAS to full autonomy.
AImotive is a privately held company, headquartered in Budapest with offices in Mountain View, California, and Tokyo, Japan. The company has been granted licenses to test their self-driving vehicle fleet in Hungary, Finland and the states of California and Nevada. Follow @AImotive on Twitter, like us on Facebook, or learn more at www.aimotive.com.

About HERE Technologies
HERE, the Open Location Platform company, enables people, enterprises and cities to harness the power of location. By making sense of the world through the lens of location we empower our customers to achieve better outcomes – from helping a city manage its infrastructure or an enterprise optimize its assets to guiding drivers to their destination safely. To learn more about HERE, including our new generation of cloud-based location platform services, visit 360.here.com and www.here.com.

About Vodafone
Vodafone Group is one of the world’s leading telecoms and technology service providers. We have extensive experience in connectivity, convergence and the Internet of Things, as well as championing mobile financial services and digital transformation in emerging markets.

Vodafone Group has mobile operations in 24 countries, partners with mobile networks in 42 more, and fixed broadband operations in 19 markets. As of 30 September 2019, Vodafone Group had approximately 625 million mobile customers, 27 million fixed broadband customers and 22 million TV customers, including all of the customers in Vodafone’s joint ventures and associates. For more information, please visit: www.vodafone.com

Vodafone Hungary Zrt. launched its Hungarian operation on 30 November 1999. Vodafone Hungary is an integrated technology provider, with a portfolio covering mobile communication, mobile Internet and broadband data services for retail and business users alike.