

AUTOMOTIVE

## BMW teams with Intel, Mobileye for autonomous innovation

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*BMW Vision Next 100*

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By STAFF REPORTS

Automaker BMW Group is looking to put street-ready autonomous vehicles into production by 2021 with the creation of an open platform with technology partners.

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BMW Group, along with collaborators Intel and Mobileye, sees the potential autonomous cars hold to make driving safer and easier, with implications for highway driving as well as ridesharing in denser city streets. While many automakers and consumers still see sophisticated self-driving vehicles as a distant dream, BMW is aiming to make them a reality sooner rather than later.

### Driverless disruption

BMW Group, Intel and Mobileye will work to develop solutions for fully automated cars, enabling drivers to move from taking their hands off the wheel to being able to look away from the road and eventually take their mind off the act of driving entirely, allowing the vehicle to think for them. Once this stage of automotive autonomy has been reached, a human will not have to be in the car at all, opening up possibilities in mobility.

In order to create cars that can function completely on their own, computing power is needed. This is where tech company Intel and software developer Mobileye come in.

Mobileye's Road Experience Management technology and its sensors that detect the driving scene, along with Intel's cloud computing and connectivity will help make the vehicles safer.

The partners will use BMW's iNEXT model as the basis for their fleet. A highly automated prototype will be taken on a test drive, paving the way for extended testing of vehicles in 2017.



### *BMW i Vision*

The open platform created by BMW, Intel and Mobileye will be made available to other automakers and companies outside the automotive industry, enabling them to benefit from the findings.

"At the BMW Group we always strive for technological leadership," said Harald Krger, chairman of the board of management of BMW AG, in a statement. "This partnership underscores our Strategy Number ONE > NEXT to shape the individual mobility of the future.

"Following our investment in high definition live map technology at HERE, the combined expertise of Intel, Mobileye and the BMW Group will deliver the next core building block to bring fully automated driving technology to the street," he said. "We have already showcased such groundbreaking solutions in our VISION NEXT 100 vehicle concepts.

"With this technological leap forward, we are offering our customers a whole new level of sheer driving pleasure whilst pioneering new concepts for premium mobility."

BMW recently shared its vision of the brand's future.

As part of its celebration of its centennial ([see story](#)), BMW is revealed its vision for what its vehicles will be capable of in the future. The Vision Next 100 stays focused on the "sheer driving pleasure" that helps define the brand while seamlessly incorporating technology to enhance the experience ([see story](#)).

Thanks to German automakers Mercedes-Benz and Audi, the general public is starting to see autonomous vehicles become a reality after years of mostly behind-the-scenes progress.

Even at the beginning of the decade, autonomous vehicles seemed more like an idea out of science fiction than an imminent reality, but development by Google and other tech companies and automakers has gradually brought the possibility to light. While the race will continue for years, consumers are getting their first look at the not-so-distant future ([see story](#)).