BMW
Corporate Communications

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BMW ConnectedDrive develops intelligent parking search solutions.
The next step in Connected Navigation – on-street parking prediction.

Munich. BMW was one of the first carmakers to understand the importance of connectivity between cars, drivers and their surroundings, and with BMW ConnectedDrive it has gone on to become a world leader in this field. At the same time, the company is further expanding its position as a premium mobility provider, with intelligent services and applications like ChargeNow, ParkNow or intermodal navigation. Now, with the Dynamic Parking Prediction research project, the BMW Group is demonstrating a solution that will in future be able to shorten the search for vacant on-street parking, particularly in cities. Together with its partner INRIX, a world-leading provider of transportation intelligence and connected car services, BMW will present a research prototype of this application at TU-Automotive Detroit (formerly Telematics Detroit), one of the world's leading connected car fairs, from 3 – 4 June 2015. The system will be displayed in a BMW i3.

Easier parking searches, reduced parking-related traffic.

Intelligent solutions from BMW have repeatedly demonstrated the benefits of connected vehicles. One major sub-cluster of connected vehicle technology from BMW is Connected Navigation, where the RTTI Real-Time Traffic Information system is already helping drivers cope more effectively, more safely and more conveniently with today's driving challenges by providing them with accurate early warning of congestion and hold-ups and informing them of alternative routes. Now, the new research project Dynamic Parking Prediction is able to predict parking availability using movement data from vehicle fleets. In this way the application is able to shorten the search for vacant on-street parking, particularly in cities, and provides an effective way of reducing parking-related traffic.

BMW Group: many years of know-how in the field.

The BMW Group has been researching solutions to take the stress out of parking and to reduce the time spent locating a vacant space ever since 2011. For the purposes of this project, up-to-date digital maps were produced showing all public parking spaces, while several thousand vehicles from a test fleet supplied

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anonymous movement data generated when using these spaces. Data was supplied by fleet vehicles both when leaving a parking space and also when searching for a space. Based on the digital map, the local prediction algorithm and the parking data from the fleet vehicles, the research application calculates current parking options in a given area, for example a particular part of town. This information is then presented on the dashboard display. The number of currently vacant parking spaces and the number of drivers looking for parking are both factored into the calculation. Even when the system is restricted to using data just from the fleet vehicles it achieves reliable results – and prediction accuracy increases in step with the number of vehicles supplying data. In this way Dynamic Parking Prediction will be able to help BMW drivers obtain exactly the information they need to home in on parking areas where fewer other road users are simultaneously searching for parking. This will ease pressure on both drivers and local residents.

With the DriveNow fleet vehicles the BMW Group is collecting further useful experience. This parking information service could potentially be rolled out to all other vehicles in the car-sharing fleet in the near future.

BMW and INRIX team up to develop a production-ready system.
BMW will present a research prototype of this on-street predictive parking application at one of the world's leading connected car fairs, TU-Automotive Detroit. The new system will be displayed in a BMW i3 at the INRIX booth on 3 and 4 June 2015. INRIX and BMW will be pooling their expertise to further refine the research prototype for use in production vehicles.

"There is a clear demand from customers living in large cities for a system capable of predicting on-street parking availability. Through its collaboration with INRIX, the BMW Group aims to continue setting the benchmark in urban mobility into the future. We are starting from an excellent baseline, since most of our vehicles are already equipped with connected technology ex factory" says Martin Hauschild, Head of Traffic Technology and Traffic Management at the BMW Group.

Innovative, connected, manoeuvrable research platform: the BMW i3.
The BMW i3 is not only the world's first premium electric vehicle. With its standard-specification built-in SIM card it also offers an unrivalled range of connectivity features. These include services such as intermodal navigation, which also takes into account other modes of transport, recommending local public transport whenever this offers the best way of reaching the destination. With its innovative electric drive system with zero tailpipe emissions, its agility and its compact dimensions, the BMW i3 is also the ideal car for city driving. It therefore also makes the ideal vehicle for the first unveiling of a research version of the Dynamic Parking Prediction system.

Initial tests with this prototype have already been successfully completed in Munich. The system is self-teaching and can therefore easily be rolled out to other cities too. Dynamic Parking Prediction once again demonstrates BMW's ability to respond to customer needs with intelligent solutions.

Ongoing expansion of BMW mobility services
This latest service solution is an example of the BMW Group's ongoing expansion of its activities in the field of innovative BMW i mobility services. Parking is one of the key challenges in driving today – which is why the Group has been offering the ParkNow premium parking service ever since 2012. ParkNow offers customers a user-friendly way of searching for and reserving city parking spaces, complete with cashless payment options. One of the partners in ParkNow is Parkmobile, the world-leading provider of on-demand mobile payment solutions for public on-street parking.

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The BMW Group

With its three brands BMW, MINI and Rolls-Royce, the BMW Group is the world's leading premium manufacturer of automobiles and motorcycles and also provides premium financial and mobility services. As a global company, the BMW Group operates 30 production and assembly facilities in 14 countries and has a global sales network in more than 140 countries.

In 2014, the BMW Group sold approximately 2.118 million cars and 123,000 motorcycles worldwide. The profit before tax for the financial year 2014 was approximately € 8.71 billion on revenues amounting to € 80.40 billion. As of 31 December 2014, the BMW Group had a workforce of 116,324 employees.

The success of the BMW Group has always been based on long-term thinking and responsible action. The company has therefore established ecological and social sustainability throughout the value chain, comprehensive product responsibility and a clear commitment to conserving resources as an integral part of its strategy.

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