



Bosch and e.GO bring stress-free parking to Aachen Automated valet parking will soon be offered in the new parking garage on the RWTH Aachen campus

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- ▶ Bosch and e.GO have agreed to collaborate on automated valet parking.
- ▶ Bosch board of management member Hoheisel: “Manual parking is a thing of the past.”
- ▶ Twelve e.GO Life cars are being readied for the automated valet parking service.

Stuttgart and Aachen, Germany – This is what stress-free parking will look like in the future: pull up, step out of the car, pull out your smartphone, and use an app to tell your car to go park. This future will arrive in Aachen before the year is out, when the new parking garage for the production engineering cluster on the RWTH Aachen campus, built by Immofinanz in 2018, is equipped with Bosch automated valet parking. Now Bosch and the Aachen-based automaker e.GO have agreed to collaborate on this. Bosch will handle the infrastructure technology in the parking garage and will work with e.GO to integrate the start-up’s vehicles into the automatic valet parking service. The first stage will see automated valet parking implemented using up to 12 of e.GO’s Life electric cars. These cars are part of e.GO’s fleet, which the company makes available to its workforce for business trips and so they can present the automated valet parking service. In the second stage, Bosch and e.GO aim to improve parking-space utilization in the parking garage with the help of automated valet parking.

“Manual parking is a thing of the past. Bosch technology enables cars to park much better, saving drivers a great deal of time and avoiding stress,” says Dr. Dirk Hoheisel, member of the board of management of Robert Bosch GmbH. “Parking garages are the ideal habitat for compact, versatile city cars like the e.GO Life. Automated valet parking lets us achieve even more – namely, fitting up to 50 percent more vehicles in an existing parking garage. Customers pay

only slightly more if they opt to have this technology in their e.GO Life,” says Prof. Günther Schuh, CEO of e.GO Mobile AG.

Intelligent parking garage infrastructure assumes control of the vehicle

Automated valet parking is an important milestone on the road to autonomous driving. It is also one of the services in the portfolio of Bosch’s new Connected Mobility Solutions division. This is how it works: drivers simply leave their car in a drop-off area at the entrance to the parking garage. Using a smartphone app, they then instruct it to make its own way through the parking garage to a vacant parking space. Later, they instruct the car to meet them at the pick-up area in exactly the same way. Drivers do not need to monitor the procedure; instead they can leave the parking garage while their car is still on its way to the parking space. What makes this possible is intelligent infrastructure. Bosch sensors in the parking garage monitor the driving corridor and its surroundings and provide the information needed to guide the vehicle. The technology in the car safely converts the commands from the infrastructure into driving maneuvers and stops the vehicle in good time in the event of any obstacles or if people cross its path. Bosch and e.GO want to involve the German certification authority TÜV and local authorities in their collaboration from the outset to ensure reliable operation of the vehicle and parking garage technology.

Automated valet parking successfully implemented with Mercedes-Benz

For Bosch, the collaboration that has now begun with e.GO is the company’s second automated valet parking project. Mercedes-Benz is the pilot partner for the solution. At the Mercedes-Benz Museum parking garage in Stuttgart, Bosch and Mercedes-Benz have already made automated valet parking a reality, presenting it to the general public in the summer of 2017. Above all, Bosch and Mercedes-Benz want to gather experience of how users interact with driverless vehicles and how well such vehicles are received. To this end, the two companies are about to launch what they are calling an “experience tour” in the next few weeks. On the experience tour, an expert will accompany interested guests on a ride in a driverless car in the Mercedes-Benz Museum parking garage, explaining the technology and answering questions.

Press photograph: #533445; #1990956396

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