

Policy considerations for driving automation technology

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Status of automated vehicle legislation March 13, 2017





- NHTSA should give more guidance about the contents of the Safety Assessment Letter
- Vehicle performance guidance should be explicitly applied to Level 2 systems
- Guidance should recommend that driving automation systems not rely on users to limit their use within the operational design domain
- NHTSA should collect information about which vehicles are equipped with driving automation systems
- Guidance should encourage addressing possible misuse errors primarily through intuitive design



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Difference between Level 2 and Level 3 systems may not be apparent from a user's point of view





Safeguards to keep the driver fully engaged in the driving task and convey system limitations





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Driving automation should restrict use to the intended operational design domain





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Summary of technology effects on insurance claim frequency

Results pooled across automakers





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Experiences with driving automation following real-world use







2016 Infiniti QX60



2016 Honda Civic



2016 Toyota Prius



2017 Audi Q7

2017 Audi A4



Recorded information from over 60,000 miles and 2 years of daily driving

	phase 1	phase 2	
	March - July 2016	August 2016 - January 2017	
employee drivers	54	47	
vehicle uses	80	80	
reported miles driven	33,584	31,331	
reported days of driving	354	423	



Second phase focused on collecting information about using automation in specific situations





Overall, I felt this technology improved my driving experience

Percentage of drivers who agreed or strongly agreed, by technology





I feel comfortable using adaptive cruise control when traveling on...

Percentage of drivers who agreed or strongly agreed





I feel comfortable using active lane keeping when traveling on...

Percentage of drivers who agreed or strongly agreed





Manufacturer guidance for using adaptive cruise control in owner's manual varies

	free-flowing interstates	arterials with intersections	roads with hills	stop-and-go traffic	Local roads
Honda					
Infiniti					
Toyota					
Audi					









Manufacturer guidance for using active lane keeping in owner's manual varies



recommended use

stated limitations apply



use not recommended

no guidance provided



Technology will fail in unexpected ways





Additional policy considerations for driving automation technology

- The acceptance of driving automation technology, like driver assistance systems, will vary among drivers
 - Benefits of driving automation are likely overestimated in near term
- Drivers may not distinguish among levels of autonomy or follow intended use
 - As level 2 systems proliferate and become more dependable, they will be treated as level 3 or 4
- Disengagements should be clear and inadvertent driver disengagement should be difficult
- System disengagement should begin to slow the vehicle until driver demonstrates control





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