

Press release, 19 December 2013

Semcon taking part in Functional Safety and Evolvable architectures for autonomy (FUSE) research project with Volvo Cars, SP, KTH, Qamcom and Comentor.

The FUSE project specifically focuses on functional safety and system architectures for tomorrow's autonomous vehicles, i.e. how to safeguard that the advanced technology in autonomous vehicles always behaves as it should and also manages to handle unforeseen events, both inside and outside the vehicle. Today's system solutions and ISO 26262 industry standard are not fully capable of handling autonomous vehicles driven in traffic together with ordinary vehicles. One of the aims of the project is therefore to come up with suggestions as to how the standard might be updated to meet future demands, and create a reference architecture for autonomous vehicles. Furthermore, the project will validate solutions produced by evaluating in real vehicles.

"We're seeing a growing trend for autonomous vehicles and predict that they will be market-ready quicker than many people thought just a few years ago," says Magnus Carlsson, responsible for the SAFE competence at Semcon. "Western Sweden's position in active safety and autonomous vehicles has strengthened even more in recent years and we are therefore very pleased to be part of this project and forcing technology forward, together with other partners from industry, institutes and academia."

Volvo Cars is consciously working to soon have autonomous cars on the road and recently presented a plan to have such vehicles on the roads in and around Göteborg by 2017, known as Drive Me. "At Volvo we see autonomous vehicles as an important solution for achieving Vision Zero concerning deaths on the road. The aim is for autonomous vehicles to handle every conceivable scenario in traffic on their own. The FUSE project is a key piece of the puzzle in achieving this aim," says Erik Coelingh, technical specialist at Volvo Cars.

The project is being run within the framework of the "FFI – Strategic Vehicle Research and Innovation" program, currently being carried out by the state and auto industry on a budget of SEK 13 million and part-financed by Vinnova.

Semcon's research projects are mainly run in four chosen focus areas: SAFE, LEAN, LIGHT and SMART. These areas are a cross-section of Semcon's business, mainly towards the automotive industry, including everything from electronics and calculation methods to conceptual design. The aim of Semcon's research activities is to constantly develop its employees and be able to provide customers with unique cutting edge expertise.

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Please visit www.FUSE-project.se for more information and contact info for other partners.

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