



Ford Sync could help track allergies, diabetes for drivers

Ford working with medical companies on Sync apps

updated 12:45 pm EDT, Wed May 18, 2011

Ford announced it is working with several healthcare experts to bring health-monitoring services to its Sync in-car information and entertainment system. Through the system's Bluetooth connection, Sync could pair with glucose measuring devices to warn drivers with [diabetes](#) of high levels. Those with asthma or allergies could also check up on their status right from the car's Sync screen.

The carmaker is developing in-car Health and Wellness apps in conjunction with medical device maker Medtronic, WellDoc and SDI Health. Users will have the ability to access information such as web-based allergen alert solutions using their voice. Ford will focus with those with asthma, allergies and diabetes first, as they account for a large portion of the population.

"In essence, [we are] creating a secondary alert system and alternate outlet for real-time patient coaching services if you will," said Gary Strumolo, global manager, Interiors, Infotainment, Health & Wellness Research, Ford Research and Innovation.

Glucose monitoring is done in conjunction with Medtronic, who makes a continuous glucose monitoring device. Syncing with it, users could hear [glucose levels](#) and trends through audio and a center stack display and provide secondary alerts if levels are too low.

SDI Health and [www.pollen.com](#) are working with Ford on an Allergy Alert app for smartphones that can be accessed from Sync through its AppLink feature. Users will then have voice-controlled access to location-based, day-by-day index levels for pollen, asthma, cold and cough and ultraviolet sensitivity along with four-day forecasts.

A partnership with WellDoc will allow users to access their WellDoc profiles for real-time patient coaching, behavioral education and medication adherence support.

Also being examined is a way to help users monitor [heart rate](#), relax and reduce stress.

By Electronista Staff

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