



L.A. Auto Show to Unveil Futuristic In-Vehicle Technologies

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In a competitive automobile market, technology is what helping the leading auto brands earn distinction among its rivals and this year's L.A. Auto Show [is going to provide a grand platform](#) for the demonstration of some of the latest advancements in the futuristic automotive technologies which may appear to be coming straight from the pages of science fiction stories.

According to industry experts, it is the competition to deliver the most advanced, user-friendly vehicles, that high-tech systems are becoming one of the vital features of today's automobiles. The attendees at this year's L.A. Auto Show held from November 18 to 26, can expect to see all the latest advancements, plus a glimpse into the future, the event organizers claimed in a press release.

According to a [press release](#), the attendees are expected to come across an amazing demonstration of advanced applications of Bluetooth, radar sensors, embedded telephony and cloud computing. All these technologies are designed to give drivers hands-free access to personal data, communications, audio entertainment, social networking and advanced safety measures previously unimaginable.

For example, in a true James Bond movie-style, Volkswagen has designed a system that allows a car to navigate itself through a parking structure, park, and then return to meet the owner at the entrance.

In an effort to reduce accidents among distracted or drowsy drivers, Lexus is designing Driver Monitoring Systems using tools such as infrared sensors to track eye movement.

The automobile giant Ford is not far behind; the company is currently testing how its SYNC platform might integrate with services such as WellDoc ([News - Alert](#)), a cloud-based patient monitoring service, to do things like monitor a driver's current health condition. The project coincided with a new law passed by the state of Nevada that authorizes the use of driverless vehicles.

The Entune-equipped 2012 Toyota Prius v offers a feature-set including integrated apps like Bing search, Pandora ([News - Alert](#)), OpenTable restaurant reservations, a search for movie times and even parental-oriented functions like a GeoFencing capability that sends text alerts if a vehicle strays from a predefined area.

Hyundai will be offering Blue Link connectivity platform on 2012 models on view at the Show including the Azera, Sonata and Veloster, and will be in the majority of Hyundai vehicles by 2013. The technology provides agent-assisted POI searches and downloads, such as locating the best gas prices, while allowing drivers to keep their eyes on the road and hands on the wheel.

Mercedes-Benz's mbrace system, available in several vehicles on display at this year's Show, features an advanced navigation and destination planning database along with a companion app allowing drivers to send addresses and POIs from their smartphones.

Hyundai plans to [roll out](#) its Azera sedan prototype t the L.A. Auto Show in November. The car, commonly described as a zero-carbon “muscle car”, is constructed of nothing more than steel tubing, Styrofoam, and plastic. The driver will need to muster up some muscle to drive it as the sample is powered only by pedals on the footboard under the driver’s seat.