

UN forum adopts global safety framework for automated driving systems

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The framework sets common safety requirements, validation criteria and post-deployment monitoring

A new global regulatory framework for Automated Driving Systems (ADS) has been adopted by the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE) World Forum for Harmonization of Vehicle Regulations, introducing standardized safety requirements and validation processes for autonomous vehicles.



Source: Getty Images/Wavebreakmedia

The framework establishes common rules for manufacturers, including the implementation of safety management systems covering the entire life cycle of ADS. It also requires the use of credible testing methods such as simulation, track testing and real-world trials to demonstrate that systems do not pose unacceptable risks.

Manufacturers must also carry out continuous performance monitoring and reporting after deployment, while vehicles are required to include data recording systems to support safety oversight. The regulations specify that automated driving performance must match or exceed that of a competent human driver.

Supported by major automotive markets including the EU, the US, China, Japan and the UK, the new rules are expected to come into force within a month. In parallel, amendments to about 90 existing United Nations regulations have been introduced to ensure compatibility with vehicles using ADS, including those without traditional driver controls.

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