

# InBrief

**SEPTEMBER 2017** 

Auto industry's two big challenges: exposing consumers to autonomous capabilities and competing with tech companies for consumers' trust

About 29% of consumers say they're likely to buy an AV-and they're willing to pay an incremental \$2,629 for those capabilities.

#### AT A GLANCE

Consumer awareness of AVs as a concept now stands at 97%, up from 90% in 2016.

78% trust tech over auto companies to develop AV software, suggesting that the auto industry is starting in a hole.

When it comes to AVs, auto companies and suppliers face a big, two-front battle: educating consumers and competing on software, where tech companies already have consumers' trust.

## Consumers are increasingly confident about AVs-if they have experienced AV capabilities

18% of consumers say they have already experienced some AV capabilities, a dramatic increase from 3% in 2016. When consumers have experienced AV capabilities, 49% feel confident about AVs compared to 26% if they have not experienced AVs.



of consumers are aware of AVs as a concept, increasing by 7 percentage points from 2016 to 2017.

29%

of consumers say they'd be likely to purchase an AV.

## Infotainment is becoming more important for AV buyers, while interest in performance and design is falling

Automakers may need to shift their efforts and investments from traditional product attributes like performance and design (which consumers find 15% and 10% less important in AVs, respectively) to infotainment and connectivity (which consumers find 4% more important in AVs).

#### Consumers strongly prefer using AVs for isolated/low-speed environments, and they are two times less likely to use AVs to handle traffic congestion

Top consumer concerns:

- Software quality (84% of consumers)
- Hardware failures (80% of consumers)
- Cybersecurity: hacking (77% of consumers)
- Cybersecurity: privacy (75% of consumers)

### FIGURE 1: AV USAGE CONDITIONS 2017: HIGHER MEANS MORE LIKELY



Source: AlixPartners autonomous vehicles consumer survey

## **FIGURE 2**: CONSUMER TRUST FOR COMPANIES BUILDING AVs 2017

	Design an AV softw			manufacture dware only
Traditional automakers	;	9%		79%
Technology companies		78	%	10%
Ride-hailing services	I	1%		1%

Source: AlixPartners autonomous vehicles consumer survey

#### Consumers are willing to pay \$2,629 on average for AV capabilities—early adopters are willing to pay much more

Of the likely AV consumers, 20% are early adopters who see themselves buying an AV within the first year it is offered for sale. 43% of those early adopters are willing to pay more than \$3,500 for the AV capabilities, compared to 28% for those consumers who want to wait for the technology to mature (i.e., wait more than one year).

## Consumers overwhelmingly trust tech companies to develop AV software

78% of consumers trust tech (vs. auto or ridehailing) companies for developing AV software (brains), a similar result from last year's AlixPartners survey, suggesting that auto industry is "starting in a hole." Interestingly, consumers in the survey did not rate tech companies—when these companies work alone—as their most-preferred development model for bringing AVs to market.





#### **CONTACT THE AUTHORS:**

Mark Wakefield (mwakefield@alixpartners.com), Arun Kumar (akumar@alixpartners.com), Ananta Medury (amedury@alixpartners.com), Jason Reaves (jreaves@alixpartners.com).

The opinions expressed are those of the author and do not necessarily reflect the views of AlixPartners, LLP, its affiliates, or any of its or their respective professionals or clients. This article regarding The AlixPartners autonomous vehicles consumer survey ("Article") was prepared by AlixPartners, LLP ("AlixPartners") for general information and distribution on a strictly confidential and non-reliance basis. No one in possession of this Article may rely on any portion of this Article. This Article may be based, in whole or in part, on projections or forecasts of future events. A forecast, by its nature, is speculative and includes estimates and assumptions which may prove to be wrong. Actual results may, and frequently do, differ from those projected or forecast. The information in this Article reflects conditions and our views as of this date, all of which are subject to change. We undertake no obligation to update or provide any revisions to the Article. This article is the property of AlixPartners, and neither the article nor any of its contents may be copied, used, or distributed to any third party without the prior written consent of AlixPartners.