

Feb 24, 2023

News Release

Continuing our supporting role in the 5G Automated Logistics project (V-CAL)

On January 26, 2023, the winners of a competition ran by "Centre for Connected and Autonomous Vehicles" (CCAV) were announced at the event held at one of Vantec Europe Ltd (VEU)'s sites in Sunderland, UK. CCAV, in conjunction with the department for "Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy" (BEIS), part of the UK Government's Department for Transport, have invested government and industry funding to support self-driving transport technology in the UK.

This event, hosted by the North East Automotive Alliance (NEAA) and VEU, was held to present the details of seven projects who have each received a share of the funding; the seven projects include the V-CAL project which VEU have participated in since 2020 (originally named 5G-CAL). The project successfully created a 5G network on a private road between Nissan Motor Manufacturing UK (NMUK's) site and VEU's Turbine Business Park site and deployed a self-driving EV truck that delivered parts to NMUK autonomously using a teleport rig (remote control).

※The V-CAL (Vehicle Connected Automated Logistics) project is the next stage of this project aiming to create a safe, autonomous supply chain as well as contribute to decarbonisation and will move from one self-driving HGV to three, in which one tele operator will monitor and control remotely to transport product to NMUK.

On the day of the event, a transportation demonstration combining automated driving and tele control was conducted on the private road (approx. 0.5 km) between VEU and NMUK. Many people attended the event, including CCAV Deputy Director Michael Talbot, representatives of the seven projects and members of the media. Each representative was given the opportunity to present their project and visitors were able to tour the vehicles of each which were on display at the event. Many visitors were amazed by the power of VEU's 40-ton tractor unit and the latest technology, and took commemorative photos with the vehicle.

The V-CAL project is expected to be a major step toward the use of tele-operated trucks on public roads. The goal over the next two years is to safely operate multiple automated EV trucks at one time with a single tele-controlled operator, and this latest round of funding is an important step toward achieving an autonomous supply chain on a larger scale. By always keeping safety as a top priority and working with our own HGV drivers to explore various ways to supplement their driving duties, as well as providing drivers with the opportunity to re-train in remote control operation, this is expected to be a logistics solution that customers can feel comfortable leaving to us.

Through research and collaboration with diverse stakeholders, we will continue to realise its management philosophy, "We, VANTEC, based on "The Science of Logistics", aim to continue growing global business and creating added value services by using our original highly advanced methodologies" while contributing to the creation of an affluent society.

<Outline of the event>

Date	Jan 26 th , 2023
Location	3 Infiniti Drive, Hillthorn Business Park, Washington, Tyne and Wear, NE37 3HG, The United Kingdom
Agenda	CCAV Deployment Competition Announcement
Organiser	BEIS, CCAV
Corporation	NEAA, VEU

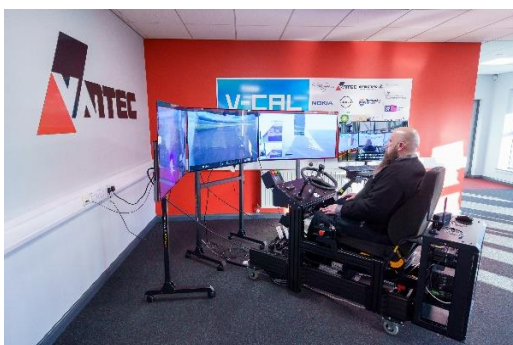
<Pictures at the event>



Deputy Director of CCAV Mr. Michael Talbot on the left
VEU Managing Director Mr. Martin Kendall on the right



Visitors of the event



Tele Operations rig



EV tractor unit towing a trailer

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【Contact Information】
Vantec Corporation
General Affairs Department
TEL: 81-(0)45-306-5230