

Press release

6th October 2011

LTE in the car: Telefónica Germany brings high-speed Internet to vehicles

MUNICH. Starting 5th October, Telefónica Germany and BMW will be showing how the new LTE mobile communication technology works in cars. It enables high-speed Internet, including video streaming and music, even while driving on the road.

For quite some time now, the specialists at BMW Group Research and Technology have been conducting extensive live tests to evaluate LTE in vehicles. They have also been developing new applications such as automatic traffic sign recognition via a server connection. These activities are made possible in the current research prototype through LTE by Telefónica Germany. For one year already, the BMW Research and Innovation Centre (FIZ) has been provided with the new broadband technology for these tests. Telefónica also provides the county of Ebersberg near Munich since December with LTE.

“These days people want to be able to communicate via the Internet at the highest speeds whenever and wherever,” says Andrea Folgueiras, Managing Director of Network Technology at Telefónica Germany. “Thanks to LTE, soon this will also be possible in moving cars.”

The BMW Group is testing LTE in the city of Munich and surrounding rural areas, studying parameters such as transmission characteristics, latency times and data speeds in real time. Initial promising results show top download values of up to 70 megabits per second as well as average data rates of 23 megabits per second within the city. Overall significantly better area coverage has been measured than with previous mobile communication technology – with a higher data rate.

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An advantage of LTE is that CPU-intensive processes can be transferred to powerful servers outside of the vehicle, thus creating space and reducing the weight and energy requirements of the car. LTE's minimal latency times are also an important factor. As a result, data-intensive cloud computing is possible while on the road, which could benefit the mobile services of BMW ConnectedDrive for example. Thanks to LTE, these services will become faster, more powerful and have even greater coverage.

The BMW Group will be presenting its projects during the Innovation Days in Munich starting on 5th October. For more information about LTE by Telefónica Germany visit <http://www.telefonica.de/presse-lte>. About BMW informs the press portal at <http://www.press.bmwgroup.com>.

Notes to editor:

Think Big nominated for German Prize for Civic Engagement
The Think Big initiative, a partnership between Telefónica Germany and the German Children and Youth Foundation (DKJS), has been nominated for the shortlist of the German Prize for Civic Engagement 2011. Everyone can vote for Think Big until 1st November at <http://www.deutscher-engagementpreis.de>

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