

Groningen, 19th of December 2017

Cooperation between the Province of Groningen and French company NAVYA on autonomous transportation

The Province of Groningen is going to cooperate with the French company NAVYA on autonomous transportation. An autonomous driving vehicle of the company will be tested first at the 5G Lab of the Zernike Campus in Groningen. The autonomous shuttle will possibly also drive at a track at the Ommelander Hospital in Scheemda. The Province and the hospital are talking about this plan. Furthermore there are also plans for a pilot with an autonomous cab. It is the first time for NAVYA to start working together with a Dutch party. The cooperation fits well within the ambition of the Province to test several suppliers. Last year a shuttle of another supplier has already been tested at different places in Groningen.

The latest autonomous vehicle of NAVYA, the 'Autonom Shuttle' has more possibilities than the vehicle that has been tested before. It is for instance better in recognising objects and is capable of reaching a higher speed.

Ommelander Hospital Scheemda

At this moment 60 autonomous shuttles of NAVYA are already driving worldwide, including in Paris, Las Vegas and Singapore. A total of 250.000 passengers have been using the vehicles. The autonomous shuttle of NAVYA is coming to Groningen in March 2018. The vehicle will be tested at the 5G Lab of the Zernike Campus, for instance with steering from a distance. Possibly the shuttle will also be tested at the Eemshaven test track and in Loppersum. The Province is working with the Ommelander Hospital on a pilot starting from the summer of 2018 with the autonomous shuttle between the bus stop at the provincial road N362 and the main entrance of this new hospital in Scheemda. This pilot is a next step in the development of autonomous transportation because the shuttle will be driving in between other traffic and it will be connecting to the existing public transport. The approval and an exemption of the RDW is necessary for the pilots.

Autonom Cab

Furthermore the Province of Groningen and NAVYA agreed on the company making an offer for its autonomous cab, the NAVYA Autonom Cab, beginning of the summer of 2018. This is a new autonomous vehicle for six persons which can reach an operational speed of 50 kilometers an hour. The Province of Groningen and NAVYA see extra possibilities with the Autonom Cab as a solution for the attainability of rural areas, in combination with the autonomous shuttle. Therefore the Province of Groningen wants to be the first to test the Autonom Cab in The Netherlands. The Autonom Cab will probably be on the market in June 2018.

Autonomous transportation in Northern Netherlands

The Provinces Groningen, Fryslân and Drenthe and the municipality of Ooststellingwerf have the ambition to turn

Northern Netherlands into the testing area of the country when it comes to autonomous transportation. According to these governments autonomous transportation is a way of maintaining and improving the attainability and livability of the rural areas. Therefore they ask transport companies, producers and knowledge institutions to come with proposals for pilots on the area of autonomous transportation. This contains transport on the road, as well as by rail, on the water and through the air.

More information

You can find more information about NAVYA on www.navya.tech.