Auto and Tech Industry Executives and Experts State Driverless Cars Are Not Ready for Prime Time Any Time Soon

John Krafcik, CEO of Waymo: “This is a very long journey. It’s a very challenging technology and we’re going to take our time. Truly every step matters.” (The Wall Street Journal, 11/13/18)

Steve Wozniak, Co-Founder of Apple: "Artificial intelligence in cars is trained to spot everything that is normal on the roads, not something abnormal... They aren't going to be able to read the words on signs and know what they mean. I've really given up.” (Arabian Business, 9/26/18)

Ryan Chin, Co-founder and CEO of Optimus Ride: “I challenge any car company to drive through a complex urban environment without a diver under any weather conditions... We're not there yet as an industry. Even the best systems aren’t there yet.” (Quartz, 9/23/18)

John Leonard, Vice President for Automated Driving Research at Toyota Research Institute: “Taking me from Cambridge to Logan Airport with no driver in any Boston weather or traffic condition—that might not be in my lifetime.” (Bloomberg, 9/19/18)

Ian Robertson, BMW Board Member: “If we are working towards a ‘brain off’ scenario, where perhaps we expect travelers to even sit in the back of the car and relax, then that clearly isn’t possible today, despite what some might tell you.” (Autocar, 8/8/18)

Bill Ford Jr., Executive Chairman of Ford Motor Company: “There's been a lot of over-promising and I think a lot of misinformation that's been out there. It's really important that we get it right, rather than get it quickly.” (CBS News, 6/20/18)

Ogi Redzic, Senior Vice President of Connected Vehicles and Mobility Services at Nissan: “Say a 2021 target is the example. What they may be saying is in a little, geofenced area with certain speed and conditions. If you ask generic statements, like ‘when will all cars be driverless?’, well of course we are talking about the very distant future.” (news.com.au, 2/15/18)

Kay Stepper, Vice President of Automated Driving and Driver Assistance for Robert Bosch LLC: “You could spend years of testing and validation on public roads and not encounter every specific scenario that can happen in a vehicle’s life.” (Design News, 2/7/18)

Gill Pratt, CEO of Toyota Research Institute: “It’s a mistake to say that the finish line is coming up very soon. Things are changing rapidly, but this will be a long journey.” (Bloomberg, 1/9/18)

Mike Ramsey, Gartner Inc. Transportation Analyst: “I don’t care what GM or Waymo say, the idea that these will be free-range vehicles that can go anywhere is not realistic.” (The Economic Times, 1/4/18)