



ZF and Maxion Team up to Present Smart Wheel Connectivity Solution

- **Companies present world's first fully integrated, multi-service wheel sensor**
- **System helps to improve road safety and efficiency while driving down costs for fleet operators and others**
- **Smart Wheel Connectivity Solution is suited for heavy commercial vehicles like buses, trucks and agricultural machinery**

Frankfurt / Friedrichshafen. ZF OPENMATICS and Maxion Wheels announced today the joint development of the world's first fully-integrated wheel sensor system. The multi-service Smart Wheel Connectivity Solution will track, analyze and broadcast key data such as tire pressure, temperature, wheel load and other wheel and tire performance metrics to drivers, fleet operators, mobility providers and infrastructure authorities. Suited for a variety of vehicle types, from buses, trucks and even agricultural machinery, the Smart Wheel Connectivity Solution helps to improve road safety and efficiency while decreasing costs.

"ZF has the benefit of years of experience with wireless communication like BLE (Bluetooth Low Energy). We are now combining this expertise with that of Maxion to create the world's first fully integrated battery-powered Wheel TAG sensor that adds important functionalities beyond tire pressure monitoring. The benefits of real-time wheel monitoring solutions are being extended to tire life and optimal tire performance. This is another step in the direction of enhancing road safety, driving comfort and cost efficiency," said Thomas Rösch, Managing Director ZF OPENMATICS.

"As a result of the unique load sensor attached to the wheel, the tire and wheel information collected via the Smart Wheel Connectivity Solution will enable a variety of new safety and efficiency use and business cases," said Pieter Klinkers, Chief Executive Officer of Maxion



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Wheels. “By partnering with ZF OPENMATICS, we unite our wheel leadership with their intelligent sensor and telematics expertise. This lets us offer an integrated solution that will help prevent potentially dangerous and costly tire and wheel-end failures, as well as provide drivers and fleet operators with critical vehicle performance data needed to optimize their business.”

True 360° monitoring

The Smart Wheel Connectivity Solution combines Maxion Wheels’ MaxSmart® wheel sensor technology with ZF OPENMATICS’ integrated TAG sensor platform. Mounted directly to each wheel rim of the vehicle, the durable Bluetooth tags track humidity, tire temperature, air pressure and vehicle load as well as wheel position, speed and vibration across nine axes. Information is collected in real time and wirelessly transmitted to the vehicle’s telematics onboard unit before being transferred to the ZF Cloud. The data can then be read and analyzed via PC, smart devices or sent to a 3rd party system of the customer’s choice. By fully integrating each different data sensor into one easy-to-use TAG, ZF and Maxion offer unparalleled, true 360° monitoring possibilities.

This fully-integrated system can be installed on virtually all kinds of commercial vehicles and even in agricultural machinery. It provides unique, at-first-glance insights, helping to enhance road safety and decrease costs. This makes it highly valuable not only for fleet operators but also mobility providers for autonomous driving solutions.

The new partnership presents its first prototype during the 2019 IAA motor show with the goal to complete the feasibility studies during the first half of 2020, followed by real-world testing and validation.

Caption:

Mounted on each wheel rim, the Smart Wheel Connectivity Solution can collect all relevant wheel data through one easy-to-use device, helping to improve road safety and efficiency while driving down costs for fleet operators, mobility providers and more.



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Photo: ZF

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#MobilityLifeBalance

Mobility originally meant personal, self-determined freedom for every individual. However, due to congestion, emissions, accidents, and a lack of availability, it is now turning into an ever more present cause of stress. It is becoming increasingly difficult to reconcile personal life with the range of mobility solutions currently available. ZF aims to highlight this imbalance with its #MobilityLifeBalance themed campaign. In addition, the technology company provides solutions that contribute to a better and more sustainable mobility offering. The objective is to enable clean, safe mobility that is automated, comfortable, and affordable. At all times, for everyone, and everywhere.

Find out more about the topic through the **#MobilityLifeBalance** hashtag in social media, or online at <http://www.mobilitylifebalance.com>.

ZF Friedrichshafen AG

ZF is a global technology company and supplies systems for passenger cars, commercial vehicles and industrial technology, enabling the next generation of mobility. With its comprehensive technology portfolio, the company offers integrated solutions for established vehicle manufacturers, mobility providers and start-up companies in the fields of transportation and mobility. ZF continually enhances its systems in the areas of digital connectivity and automation in order to allow vehicles to see, think and act.

In 2018, ZF achieved sales of €36.9 billion. The company has a global workforce of 149,000 with approximately 230 locations in 40 countries. ZF invests over six percent of its sales in research and development annually.

For further press information and photos please visit: www.zf.com



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Maxion Wheels

Maxion Wheels, a division of IOCHPE-MAXION S.A., is a leading wheel manufacturer for passenger cars, light trucks, buses, commercial trucks and trailers. The Company also produces wheels for agriculture, as well as other off-highway applications. With more than 100 years of wheel-making experience and 10,000 employees globally, Maxion Wheels is the world's largest wheel manufacturer, producing nearly 60 million wheels per year. It serves its global OEM customers from 31 locations in 15 countries on five continents, including state-of-the-art technical centers in the Americas, Europe and Asia.

To learn more, please visit Maxion Wheels' website at www.maxionwheels.com.