



Porsche supports Cyber Valley

16/12/2016 As a core partner, Porsche is taking part in one of Europe's largest research collaboration projects on the topic of artificial intelligence. The project participants kicked off the initiative in Stuttgart.

Intelligent systems are already having a direct impact on the way we go about our lives. Such systems are set to trigger one of the biggest processes of change that modern civilisation has ever seen. The state of Baden-Württemberg in Germany is already home to leading research institutes active in the field of artificial intelligence. Over the coming years, Porsche will also play an active role in establishing a top international location for artificial intelligence: the Cyber Valley. Other partners involved in implementing the project include the University of Stuttgart and University of Tübingen, the Max Planck Institute for Intelligent Systems and companies such as Bosch, Daimler, BMW, ZF Friedrichshafen and Facebook.

The Cyber Valley is also set to establish an international centre for basic research and a founder platform for marketable applications. To this end, talented young scientists of the future will benefit from outstanding training together with up to 100 PhD students.

Steiner: "The Cyber Valley initiative is the ideal complement to the Mission E project"

With its work in the fields of digitalisation and electromobility, Porsche is already making a major contribution to development work in this area. "The end of the decade will see us bring the first purely electric sportscar onto the market", says Michael Steiner, Member of the Executive Board for Research and Development at Porsche AG.

"The Mission E project not only underlines the significance of our headquarters in Stuttgart-Zuffenhausen – it is also a key milestone for Baden-Württemberg as a technological hub. The Cyber Valley initiative is the ideal complement for working on the key technologies of tomorrow, across different industries and physical locations, and for training talented young scientific minds in these areas."

Cyber Valley project set to be given a physical home

As an initial measure, the state is financing a total of nine Cyber Valley research groups alongside industrial partners and a consortium of foundations based in Baden-Württemberg. A total of ten professorships will also be created at the universities in Stuttgart and Tübingen, to promote the importance of the Cyber Valley initiative on an international scale. Two joint professorships at the Max Planck Institute for Intelligent Systems will also ensure the project maintains its focus long term. The state of Baden-Württemberg is also financing two additional professorships.

What's more, the partner companies are offering two endowed chairs in Stuttgart and Tübingen. Summer 2017 will then see a graduate school set up by the Max Planck Institute for Intelligent Systems and the universities in Stuttgart and Tübingen – the International Max Planck Research School for Intelligent Systems.

In a second stage of expansion, a new building will be erected to give the Cyber Valley initiative a physical home. This building will serve as a base for one of Europe's largest research collaboration projects in the field of artificial intelligence. More than EUR 50 million is set to be invested in expanding the Cyber Valley initiative over the coming years.

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