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# Aurora Releases Aurora Driver Beta 5.0, As Company Advances Toward Commercial Launch

Beta release reveals key updates and critical progress on the Aurora Driver as it nears “Feature Complete” milestone, including the capability to respond to emergency vehicles

PITTSBURGH--(BUSINESS WIRE)-- Today, Aurora Innovation, Inc. (NASDAQ: AUR) released Aurora Driver Beta 5.0, the latest version of its integrated hardware and autonomy system, to its autonomous trucking fleet in Texas. With a more performant Aurora Driver, Aurora advances toward commercial launch and continues to increase its weekly hauls of freight for pilot customers like FedEx, Uber Freight, Werner, and Schneider.

This press release features multimedia. View the full release here: <https://www.businesswire.com/news/home/20221219005157/en/>

With the release of Aurora Driver Beta 5.0, Aurora advances toward commercial launch and continues to increase its weekly hauls of freight for pilot customers like FedEx, Uber Freight, Werner, and Schneider. (Photo: Aurora)

Safe and reliable autonomous driving, while being courteous and also handling the nuances of the road,

is essential to launch commercial operations at scale. Aurora Driver Beta 5.0 unlocks key safety-critical and increasingly complex highway driving capabilities, enabling the Aurora Driver to autonomously operate in more scenarios. These new capabilities include:

1. Detecting and appropriately responding to emergency vehicles like ambulances, fire engines, and law enforcement vehicles.
2. Safely re-entering traffic after resolving a system problem that prompted the Aurora Driver to pull over to the shoulder.
3. Navigating lanes with temporary barriers, a typical scenario in construction zones.

## Advancing toward “Feature Complete”

The [Aurora Driver](#) is the autonomy system that underpins [Aurora Horizon](#), Aurora’s subscription-based autonomous trucking service. Aurora’s quarterly beta releases debut new capabilities of the Aurora Driver, which are reflected in the [Aurora Horizon roadmap to commercial launch](#), and bring the system closer to “Feature Complete.” Aurora expects to reach “Feature Complete” at the end of Q1 2023, which will indicate the capabilities required for commercial launch have been implemented in the Aurora Driver and all policy interventions have been removed.

“We are already demonstrating the value an autonomous trucking product can bring to our pilot customers as we continue to deliver loads across Texas each day,” said Chris Urmson, Co-Founder and Chief Executive Officer at Aurora. “Launching our latest beta release moves

Aurora one step closer to a commercial-ready product and helps to prepare us for the scaled deployment of Aurora Horizon across the country.”

In the past year, Aurora introduced five beta releases, each one bringing Aurora closer to commercial launch. [The initial beta release](#) introduced foundational driving capabilities such as merging and lane-changing at highway speed and unprotected left-hand turns. Aurora built upon these in 2022, unlocking increasingly complex capabilities each quarter, including:

- [Beta 2.0](#): Construction zone navigation – reacting to temporary signs that signal temporary speed limits, closed lanes, and the presence of construction workers.
- [Beta 3.0](#): Fault Management System (FMS) – identifying and responding to a system problem by safely pulling over to the shoulder.
- [Beta 4.0](#): Unexpected and potentially dangerous situations – circumventing debris on the road.

After reaching “Feature Complete,” the Aurora Driver will then undergo an extensive validation phase where its capabilities will be refined and readied for driverless commercial operation, set to launch in 2024. Aurora Driver Beta 5.0 is also powering Aurora’s ride-hailing fleet, which continues testing in the Dallas-Fort Worth area.

### **About Aurora**

Aurora (Nasdaq: AUR) is delivering the benefits of self-driving technology safely, quickly, and broadly to make transportation safer, increasingly accessible, and more reliable and efficient than ever before. The Aurora Driver is a self-driving system designed to operate multiple vehicle types, from freight-hauling semi-trucks to ride-hailing passenger vehicles, and underpins Aurora Horizon and Aurora Connect, its driver-as-a-service products for trucking and ride-hailing. Aurora is working with industry leaders across the transportation ecosystem, including Toyota, FedEx, Volvo Trucks, PACCAR, Uber, Uber Freight, U.S. Xpress, Werner, Covenant, Schneider, and Ryder. For Aurora’s latest news, visit [aurora.tech](#) and [@aurora\\_inno](#) on Twitter.

### **Cautionary Statement Regarding Forward-Looking Statements**

This press release contains certain forward-looking statements within the meaning of the federal securities laws. All statements contained in this press release that do not relate to matters of historical fact should be considered forward-looking statements, including but not limited to, those statements around our ability to achieve certain milestones around the development and commercialization of our autonomous trucking product and related services on the timeframe we expect or at all. These statements are based on management’s current assumptions and are neither promises nor guarantees, but involve known and unknown risks, uncertainties and other important factors that may cause our actual results, performance or achievements to be materially different from any future results, performance or achievements expressed or implied by the forward-looking statements. For factors that could cause actual results to differ materially from the forward-looking statements in this press release, please see the risks and uncertainties identified under the heading “Risk Factors” section of Aurora Innovation, Inc.’s (“Aurora”) Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the quarter ended September 30, 2022, filed with the SEC on November 3, 2022, and other documents filed by Aurora from time to time with the SEC, which are accessible on the SEC website at [www.sec.gov](#). All forward-looking statements reflect our beliefs and assumptions only as of the date of this press release. Aurora undertakes no obligation to update forward-looking statements to reflect future events or circumstances.

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