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Aurora Opens First Commercial-Ready Route for its Planned Driverless Truck Launch in Late 2024

With the debut of its commercial-ready terminal in Houston, Aurora can support and service driverless trucks between Dallas and Houston.

Aurora terminals operate day and night, supporting more than 75 commercial loads a week.

HOUSTON--(BUSINESS WIRE)-- Aurora Innovation, Inc. (NASDAQ: AUR) announced today it has opened the industry's first lane for driverless trucks supported by commercial-ready terminals in Dallas and Houston. Nearly half of all truck freight in Texas moves along the I-45 between Dallas and Houston, making this corridor an ideal route for Aurora's commercial launch. Similar to its [first terminal in South Dallas](#), Aurora's new terminal in Houston is designed to support and service driverless trucks at a commercial scale.

This press release features multimedia. View the full release here:

<https://www.businesswire.com/news/home/20231101915707/en/>



Aurora autonomous truck outside Aurora's new Houston terminal designed to support and service driverless trucks at a commercial scale. (Credit: Aurora)

“Opening a driverless trucking lane flanked by commercially-ready terminals is an industry-first that unlocks our ability to launch our driverless trucking product,” said Sterling Anderson, Co-Founder and Chief Product Officer at Aurora. “With this corridor’s launch, we’ve defined, refined, and validated the framework for the

expansion of our network with the largest partner ecosystem in the autonomous trucking industry.”

Commercial-Ready Terminals Designed for Seamless Customer Experience

Aurora uses terminals to house, maintain, prepare, inspect, and deploy autonomous trucks between destinations. The company has developed an innovative terminal blueprint to

implement a layout and list of features that make its terminals commercial-ready for the launch of driverless operations.

Aurora's terminal blueprint is designed to maximize the time autonomous trucks are on the road hauling freight. For example, on-site weigh stations support enhanced pre-trip inspections, which ensure Aurora's trucks are compliant with regulatory standards while allowing them to bypass inspection sites on the road. This promotes safe operations and results in a more efficient trip with fewer stops.

Aurora picks its terminal locations with its customers in mind. Aurora's Houston terminal is located in a logistics hub near its pilot customers, including FedEx and others. This proximity to customers makes it easy to seamlessly integrate autonomous trucks into their middle-mile operations.

Preparing for Commercial Driverless Operations

The ability to service and support driverless trucks 24/7/365 is critical to launching a valuable product that can handle dynamic demand. Today, Aurora's terminals operate day and night, supporting their trucks as they haul more than 75 loads a week for pilot customers.

Aurora is also preparing its Command Center to support around-the-clock commercial operations. Aurora's Command Center includes a team of remote specialists who monitor and provide guidance to the active fleet of Aurora-powered trucks, and dispatchers who allocate trucks, trailers, and vehicle operators to missions. Aurora's Command Center already supports commercial pilot hauls and is prepared to support driverless missions.

"Bringing our commercial-ready terminals and services online a year ahead of our planned commercial driverless launch between Dallas and Houston enables us to focus next year on integrating our Driver-ready trucks into our customers' operations," added Anderson.

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 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 Continental, FedEx, PACCAR, Ryder, Schneider, Toyota, Uber, Uber Freight, Volvo Trucks and Werner. For Aurora's latest news, visit aurora.tech and [@aurora_inno](https://twitter.com/aurora_inno).

[Aurora Overview](#)
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