For immediate release

INIT reinforces leadership in autonomous driving

Long-standing research enhanced by market-ready management systems for autonomous driving

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On 1 October 2026, INIT acquired a 67.74 per cent stake in the Norwegian company Applied Autonomy. Established in 2017, the start-up specialises in the development of software solutions for the operation, monitoring and management of autonomous vehicles in public transport, at airports and in the logistics sector. INIT is leveraging its majority stake in Applied Autonomy to strategically bolster its technological capabilities in this business segment.

Based in Kongsberg, a leading Norwegian centre for technology and innovation, the company specialises in the integration and control of autonomous mobility solutions for public transport, airports and logistics applications. Its core product is the xFlow® platform, a manufacturer-agnostic software solution for controlling autonomous vehicles. It enables what is known as ‘technical supervision’ for autonomous vehicles. In addition to integrating autonomous vehicles from different manufacturers, the platform monitors the vehicles in real time, enables remote operator functions when there is no driver on board and provides operational data for downstream systems.

INIT’s MOBILE-ITCS control system and xFlow® enable the management of autonomous vehicles and mixed fleets, which include both autonomous and conventional vehicles. The result is an integrated solution that ensures the safe and efficient operation of self-driving vehicle fleets in real-world traffic conditions.

Technological milestones achieved in Norway, the Netherlands and Germany

Applied Autonomy is already a highly successful company in this field. The only autonomous bus in Europe operating on a regular route without a safety driver is in service in the city of Stavanger, utilising xFlow® as its digital operations

and control platform. Two autonomous buses equipped with xFlow® have been in service in Rotterdam since 2025.

“As a small, innovative company, we have made our mark internationally. We are therefore delighted about our partnership with INIT, an international technology leader, because together we can scale our business very quickly and significantly accelerate our growth,” said Olav Madland, CEO of Applied Autonomy.

INIT has been conducting extensive research into autonomous driving for many years, earning industry-wide recognition for its expertise in this field. As part of these efforts, INIT is currently leading “BRAVE10k”, a flagship research and implementation project. The name stands for ‘Conditions for the framework tender, implementation, road authorisation and roll-out of more than 10,000 public autonomous vehicles’. Funded by the Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs and Energy (BMWE) and scheduled to run for three years, the project focuses on integrating 10,000 autonomous vehicles into public transport across Germany by 2030. Together, the two companies will further advance autonomous mobility in public transportation.

Images :

1. The world’s first autonomous airport bus has been in service in Rotterdam since 2025. (© INIT│ Dr. Frank Pagel)
2. Thanks to xFlow®, the technical supervision team in Rotterdam has a clear overview of the vehicles at all times and can intervene if necessary. (© Applied Autonomy | Olav Madland)

About INIT

As a worldwide leading supplier of integrated planning, dispatching, telematics and ticketing systems for buses and trains, INIT has been assisting transport companies in making public transport more attractive, reliable and more efficient for more than 40 years. Today, more than 1,400 transport providers rely on INIT´s innovative hard- and software solutions.

The unique selling proposition of INIT's integrated telematics system MOBILE is that it comprises all of the daily tasks of public transport providers:

- Planning & Dispatching
- Ticketing & Fare Management
- Operations Control & Real-Time Passenger Information
- Analysing & Optimising

With INIT's integrated solutions, transport companies can master all requirements of electromobility and strengthen their role as mobility broker of their region by establishing a mobility platform. An excellent package of operational services completes the INIT offering.

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We look forward to the publication of this release and request a sample copy.