Press Release

Dresden, April 26, 2018

Autonomous – Connected – Electric

Unveiling an e-truck for fully-automated operation in gated areas

At the picturesque Landshut castle in Bernkastel-Kues, numerous guests had been invited to follow a very special event: The new E 180 AX was presented to the public for the first time and officially handed over to the Fraunhofer IVI.

Not long ago, it was still an 18-ton diesel truck by Mercedes, and today it runs 100 percent on electric energy. In cooperation with the EFA-S Elektrofahrzeuge Stuttgart GmbH, the ORTEN Electric-Trucks company re-equipped the vehicle accordingly within just a few months.

The electric engine by ARADEX is supplied with a permanent power of 305 kW by the lithium-iron-phosphate battery with an energy content of 244 kWh. The e-truck has a range of approximately 200 kilometers with a charging time of about 11 hours.

The event marked an important milestone within the AutoTruck project. This 3-year project – funded by the German Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs and Energy (BMWi) under its program »New vehicle and system technologies« – is aiming at the development and demonstration of technologies for the fully-automated cooperative operation of commercial vehicles in suitable gated areas. Outside of these areas, the vehicle can still be operated by a driver.

The project manager Götting KG is responsible for high-precision positioning and the implementation of a contactless SIL2 safety system for collision avoidance. The company WABCO Development GmbH contributes an innovative system for wireless communication between the vehicle and the infrastructure (V2X).

The Fraunhofer IVI’s tasks in the project include the implementation of autonomous driving functions as well as maneuver planning in real time and a web-based yard operating system. Towards the end of the project lifetime in fall 2019, a demonstration is planned. The necessary yard will be provided by the Emons Spedition GmbH.
The consortium is supported by its associated partners:

- Deutsche GVZ-Gesellschaft,
- Freight-transport center Dresden and
- P&G Service Company NV.

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Supported by:

[Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs and Energy]

on the basis of a decision by the German Bundestag