

# GM sees self-driving cars as gradual rollout

July 11 2016

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President of General Motors Dan Ammann, pictured on March 21, 2016, said the auto giant's strategy on autonomous cars is linked with Lyft, the ride-sharing startup in which GM has invested some \$500 million

General Motors believes in autonomous vehicles as a safer mode of transport, and expects the technology to come more quickly than most people think, a top executive said Monday.

"There isn't going to be a particular moment or day when we see it—it will unfold in a gradual way, but it will be a lot faster than people are

expecting," said GM president Dan Ammann at the Fortune Brainstorm Tech conference in Colorado.

Ammann declined to comment on the fatal accident involving a Tesla electric car in semi-autonomous driving mode but said GM believes the technology will lead to safer roads.

"It's our fundamental belief that autonomous technology will lead to lower fatalities," Ammann said.

Ammann, appearing on stage with Lyft co-founder John Zimmer, said the auto giant's strategy on [autonomous cars](#) is linked with the ride-sharing startup in which GM has invested some \$500 million.

"We think ridesharing is interesting and we think [autonomous vehicles](#) are interesting and we think we can put the two together" with Lyft, he said.

Zimmer said autonomous driving [technology](#) is a key element in Lyft's long-term vision of changing the model of car ownership.

He said that in the United States alone, spending on [car](#) ownership amounts to some \$2 trillion annually "so we believe in cities that the majority of that spend will transform to transportation as a service."

Earlier Monday, GM and Lyft announced an expansion of their deal allowing Lyft drivers to Los Angeles, San Francisco and Denver.

The companies said Lyft drivers would also be able to use the soon-to-be-launched Chevrolet Bolt electric vehicle.

Citation: GM sees self-driving cars as gradual rollout (2016, July 11) retrieved 24 April 2024 from <https://phys.org/news/2016-07-gm-self-driving-cars-gradual-rollout.html>

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