

Waymo chief says his tech would have averted fatal Uber crash

March 26 2018



"At Waymo, we have a lot of confidence that our technology would be able to handle a situation like that," CEO John Krafcik (seen here) told a car dealership conference in Las Vegas on Saturday

The CEO of Waymo, the Google subsidiary tasked with developing

driverless cars, has said the recent death of a pedestrian in an accident involving an autonomous car would not have occurred with his company's technology.

"At Waymo, we have a lot of confidence that our technology would be able to handle a situation like that," John Krafcik told a car dealership conference in Las Vegas on Saturday.

He added that Waymo's vehicles had clocked more than eight million kilometers (4.9 million miles) on routes frequented by pedestrians since 2009 without being involved in a [fatal accident](#).

But he said he was nevertheless troubled by the incident.

An autonomously-operating Uber struck and killed a pedestrian on March 18 in the US state of Arizona.

The woman had been walking in the street in the city of Tempe when she was hit, and died from her injuries in a hospital.

As a result of the accident, Uber suspended its self-driving tests which it had been conducting in Tempe, San Francisco, Pittsburgh, and Toronto, Canada.

It also raised fears about the future of such cars, which supporters claim will dramatically reduce accidents.

© 2018 AFP

Citation: Waymo chief says his tech would have averted fatal Uber crash (2018, March 26) retrieved 14 July 2024 from <https://phys.org/news/2018-03-waymo-chief-tech-averted-fatal.html>

This document is subject to copyright. Apart from any fair dealing for the purpose of private

study or research, no part may be reproduced without the written permission. The content is provided for information purposes only.