PRESS RELEASE

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FORVIA Receives Three 2026 Automotive News PACE Pilot Recognitions

- Software-Defined Sensing technology of FORVIA HELLA transforms new safety and convenience features from existing UWB digital key hardware
- FORVIA's AIRTILE offers a new way to design automotive interior lighting that is lighter, slimmer, and more sustainable than traditional solutions
- Gaze & Select Cockpit Engine of FORVIA is an eye-tracking software solution enabling drivers to intuitively interact with cockpit displays by selecting icons through gaze

FORVIA had three technologies named 2026 Automotive News PACE Pilot Innovations to Watch at the awards ceremony on November 17th. The recognition acknowledges post-pilot, pre-commercial innovations in the automotive and future mobility space. FORVIA was recognized for the following innovations:

UWB Software-Defined Sensing technology

FORVIA HELLA's UWB Software-Defined Sensing technology transforms new safety and convenience features from existing Ultra-Wideband (UWB) digital key hardware from its Smart Car Access system. Through advanced software and machine learning, the system enables child presence detection, intrusion monitoring, and hands-free tailgate access without requiring additional sensors. This innovative approach reduces vehicle complexity and material while helping accelerate the transition to software-defined vehicles.

AIRTILE

Previously awarded the Gold rating at the prestigious 2026 German Innovation Awards, FORVIA's AIRTILE offers a new way to design automotive interior lighting that is lighter, slimmer, and more sustainable than traditional solutions. Instead of relying on heavy solid plastic parts, AIRTILE uses a combination of innovative materials and air channels to spread light evenly across surfaces. This smart design reduces the overall weight of the lighting system by up to 50% and lowers CO_2

emissions by 50%, while still delivering high-quality, visually striking lighting for modern vehicle interiors. Designed to anticipate OEM demand for advanced, interactive, and immersive lighting, AIRTILE enhances both safety and comfort, while maintaining high UX performance in space-constrained environments.

Gaze & Select Cockpit Engine

Winner in "Excellence in Business to Business – Automotive Technologies" category at the 2026 German Innovation Awards, FORVIA's Gaze & Select Cockpit Engine is an eye-tracking software solution that enables drivers to intuitively interact with cockpit displays by selecting icons through gaze, validated via a conveniently placed physical button such as one on the steering wheel. This approach significantly reduces driver distraction and cognitive load, improves comfort, and fully supports automotive safety regulations. By leveraging existing Driver Monitoring System (DMS) cameras, remaining hardware-agnostic, and requiring minimal incremental cost, the solution offers OEMs a future-proof, globally scalable pathway to safer and more intuitive in-vehicle interaction.

"We are proud to have three technologies selected as 2026 Automotive News PACE Pilot Innovations to Watch. These awards reflect our commitment to creating a culture of local innovation and being a valued technology partner to our customers by developing solutions focused on key industry megatrends. They also reflect the hard work of our talented teams driven to deliver breakthrough innovations and advance what's possible within the mobility space," said Francois Tardif, Executive Vice President Americas, FORVIA.

"We are incredibly proud to receive this PACE Pilot recognition for our UWB Software-Defined Sensing technology. By combining secure, precise vehicle access with additional functions, we are transforming car access into a broader intelligent system that delivers more convenience, functionality, and value from a single technology platform. My sincere thanks go to the entire team whose expertise and commitment made this innovation possible. We are honored by this recognition and proud to see their outstanding work acknowledged," said Sven Hoenecke, President HELLA Electronics North & South America.

About the PACE Pilot program

The 6th annual PACE Pilot program was presented by Automotive News. The competition was open to suppliers and startups that invented products, software/IT systems or processes and idea incubators that have the capacity to transform the automotive industry. The Automotive News PACE Pilot program is leading the way in distinguishing global emerging innovators.

FORVIA earned its Automotive News PACE Pilot recognitions following an extensive review by an independent panel of judges including a comprehensive written application and a virtual pitch session.

For full details on the Automotive News PACE program, visit www.autonews.com/awards/pace. MEMA, the primary U.S. trade association representing and advocating for automotive component, system, and aftermarket parts manufacturers, is the exclusive sponsor of this recognition program.

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FORVIA, a global automotive technology supplier, comprises the complementary technology and industrial strengths of Faurecia and HELLA. With over 137,500 people, including more than 12,000 R&D engineers across 40+ countries, FORVIA provides a unique and comprehensive approach to the automotive challenges of today and tomorrow. Composed of 6 business groups and a strong IP portfolio of over 12,400 patents, FORVIA is focused on becoming the preferred innovation and integration partner for OEMs worldwide. In 2025, the Group achieved a consolidated revenue of €26.2 billion prior to IFRS 5. FORVIA SE is listed on the Euronext Paris market under the FRVIA mnemonic code and is a component of the SBF 120 index. FORVIA aims to be a change maker committed to foreseeing and making the mobility transformation happen. **www.forvia.com**

FORVIA HELLA is a listed international automotive supplier. As a company of the FORVIA Group, FORVIA HELLA stands for high-performance lighting technology and vehicle electronics and, with the Lifecycle Solutions Business Group, also covers a broad service and product portfolio for the spare parts and workshop business as well as for manufacturers of special vehicles. With currently around 34,000 employees at over 125 locations, the company is active worldwide and generated adjusted sales of €8.0 billion in the fiscal year 2025. **www.hella.com**