

**Colorado Governor Hickenlooper Declares December 4<sup>th</sup> “Connected and Autonomous Vehicle Day,” Partnering with Panasonic, EasyMile, RTD, City and County of Denver, and the Colorado Department of Transportation**

*Panasonic, EasyMile, RTD, City and County of Denver, and CDOT team up in live demonstration of connected vehicle technologies and autonomous shuttle transportation in conjunction with EasyMile’s new North American headquarters in Panasonic’s Denver facility*

**NEWARK, NJ, Dec. 5, 2017** – Panasonic, a global leader in smart cities and smart automotive technology solutions, welcomed Colorado Governor John Hickenlooper to its Denver offices, where he proclaimed December 4 as “Connected and Autonomous Vehicle Day” to reinforce initiatives like Panasonic’s connected vehicle partnership with CDOT’s RoadX Program, as well as acknowledge EasyMile, a leader in autonomous technology, for their North American headquarters grand opening co-located within the Panasonic building.

“Colorado’s reputation as a hub for advanced technologies takes a significant step forward today with Easy Mile’s opening of their North American headquarters and aligning with the state’s partner Panasonic,” said Governor John Hickenlooper. “We are proud to be called the home to one of the world’s leading autonomous transportation firms. By launching this first-of-its-kind connected vehicle program, we are rapidly leveraging transportation technology to improve safety and mobility on our roadways.”

Enabled by the autonomous vehicle legislation that State Representatives, Governor Hickenlooper, and other critical stakeholders recently spearheaded, Panasonic and EasyMile, in coordination with Colorado Department of Transportation, the City and County of Denver, and the Regional Transit District are planning the implementation of an autonomous vehicle technology deployment next to the Panasonic building in spring 2018. The driverless shuttle program will connect RTD’s 61st and Peña Station light rail station to bus routes on Tower Road, to provide a seamless first- and last-mile solution. This implementation will be the first project of its kind in North America.

Panasonic marked the milestone yesterday in its alliance with the Colorado Department of Transportation (CDOT), by highlighting its connected vehicle operations center. Governor Hickenlooper, civic leaders and select corporate executives were invited to experience an exclusive demonstration of Colorado’s first connected transportation program that shares real-time data across vehicles, infrastructure and people in order to improve safety and mobility on the road. Panasonic and CDOT have committed to preparing the statewide deployment of an eco-system of connected cars and autonomous vehicles. This effort, which is already underway, is expected to significantly reduce crashes and injuries, improve traffic flow and increase capacity of the highway.

“We are excited to show Governor Hickenlooper our V2V and V2I technologies that connect critical information with travelers,” said Jarrett Wendt, EVP Panasonic Enterprise Solutions Company. “Connected vehicles on Smart Highways provide the most advanced safety and mobility capabilities, which can directly impact the safety and security of drivers in Denver and throughout Colorado.”

In addition to Panasonic’s connected vehicle technology demonstration, EasyMile highlighted its autonomous shuttle at the Peña Station NEXT development. Announced as part of the December 4 proclamation ceremony, the EasyMile shuttle made its inaugural ride to Peña Station, offering a

practical application of first- and last-mile connections with existing public transit systems. This unique coordination between EasyMile, RTD, CDOT, City and County of Denver, and Panasonic is one of the first of its kind in the United States. Governor Hickenlooper and Mayor Hancock were the first passengers on the shuttle's inaugural trip. The route is set to be in service in late Spring/early Summer 2018.

"We are excited to introduce our driverless shuttles to Colorado and proud to become a part of Denver's growing business economy," said Gilbert Gagnaire, CEO and Founder of EasyMile. "We selected Denver as our North America headquarters for many reasons: the regulations are very supportive of our technology, we've already established partnerships with many Denver-based organizations, including Colorado DOT, RTD, the City and County of Denver, Panasonic and NREL, and there is a wealth of talent to leverage."

Learn more about Panasonic's work building [smart roads and smart cars](#).

#### **About Panasonic Corporation of North America**

Newark, NJ-based Panasonic Corporation of North America is a leading technology partner and integrator to businesses, government agencies and consumers across the region. The company is the principal North American subsidiary of Osaka, Japan-based Panasonic Corporation and leverages its strengths in Immersive Entertainment, Sustainable Energy, Automated Supply Chains and Connected Solutions to provide secure and resilient integrated solutions for B2B customers. Panasonic was highlighted in *Forbes Magazine's* Global 2000 ranking as one of the Top Ten Best Regarded Companies for 2017. The ranking is based on outstanding scores for trustworthiness, honesty with the public and superior performance of products and solutions. Learn more about Panasonic's ideas and innovations at [PanasonicMovesUs.com](#).

#### **About EasyMile**

Founded in 2014, EasyMile has a global reach with headquarters in Toulouse (France) and regional offices in Denver (USA), Berlin (Germany) and Singapore. The company has a workforce of 100 highly-skilled and passionate employees with expertise in robotics, computer vision and vehicle dynamics. EasyMile provides autonomous driving software and technologies for the first and last mile transportation of passengers and goods in various application sites: private areas, urban, suburban and rural environments. The driverless EZ10 shuttle has been deployed in 20 countries, including Asia-Pacific, North America, the Middle East and Europe.

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