

# Consumer Electronic Show 2018



<http://www.abaltatech.com/event/ces-2018/>

As most of you probably know CES 2018 took place January 9-12.

Set in Las Vegas, the tech show is the site of choice for many new announcements and product reveals - and this year there was a number of exciting automotive propositions.

## First, the announcement of the Toyota e-Palette.

This is a minibus-sized, fully electric and autonomous vehicle which can be modified to fit any commercial customer needs. Suggestions of use are wide ranging: from mobile shops, offices (see image!) and hotel rooms, to food and package delivery. It seems this is aimed at commercial customers, and has seen Toyota partner with Uber, PizzaHut, Mazda and Amazon under the e-Palette Alliance. It will be shown at the 2020 Tokyo Olympics and looks set to transform the future of mobility!



<http://www.thedrive.com/sheetmetal/17487/toyota-unveils-e-palette-alliance-and-concept-vehicle-at-ces>

Other new car concepts include a fully electric and autonomous SUV called Byton to compete with the Tesla Model X, a fully electric and autonomous sports car called Fisker Emotion to compete with the Tesla Model S, and finally, a new hydrogen fuel cell electric vehicle from Hyundai called the Nexa.

## Next, some brand new automotive technology announcements.

First, JLR has announced that their I-Pace electric car will be outfitted with their new proposition: HomeLink Connect. This will enable drivers to interact with their smart home gadgets while driving: the example given is to turn your oven on while driving home from work!

Similarly, Panasonic and Amazon have announced their intention to make interaction with Alexa voice assistant possible through their infotainment systems. This will also allow interaction with smart home gadgets, as well as car specific tasks such as heated seats. They are working to make these features available even when Alexa is offline. (Panasonic is working with Google Assistant too!)

Faurecia, a specialist automotive supplier, and Accenture, the global professional services company, have partnered to create the 'cockpit of the future'. It involves using cognitive technologies to reimagine the user experience, with specific focus on health and wellbeing.



<https://newsroom.faurecia.com/connectivity.html>

In a very different approach to the future of the automotive industry, Nissan has announced 'Brain-to-Vehicle' technology! The driver wears a skullcap which measures brain activity. They still have to perform actions, such as physically steering and braking, but the car is able to anticipate the movement as much as 0.5 seconds sooner and starts responding before the action would ordinarily have been initiated!

**To finish, there are a few other announcements which are listed below:**

- Intel streamlines autonomous decision making
- Hyundai plans in-car connectivity updates
- Kia hints at electric Niro
- ZF's next-generation ProAI supercomputer will allow carmakers to increase data processing
- Samsung reveals new Drvline platform: designed as a way to help manufacturers develop and produce components for self-driving applications.

Sources:

*AutoNews, Automotive World, Auto Blog, CES, Gear Brain*