

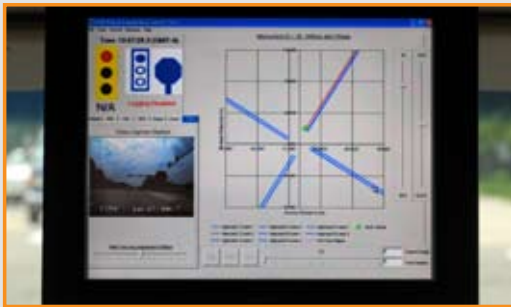


Smart Intersection

Ford Motor Company has a foothold in "intelligent vehicle" research with its Smart Intersection, located in Dearborn, Mich., which uses specially equipped test vehicles with cutting-edge Wi-Fi technology to advance vehicle safety. Ford's Smart Intersection project, launched in the summer of 2008, leverages GPS and wireless technologies so traffic lights can talk to vehicles, which can then warn drivers of potentially dangerous situations. This technology is expected to be a key part of vehicle-to-vehicle communications where cars talk to cars to help enhance safety, reduce congestion and improve the environment.

How it works

Ford research vehicles with active safety technologies wirelessly download information about the intersection to determine if drivers should be warned about possible hazards. The smart intersection also transmits to test vehicles a detailed digital map of the signalized intersection, six additional maps of the surrounding stop sign intersections or crosswalks, lane-specific GPS information and signal status information.



Real-time information

The vehicle's collision avoidance system uses this real-time information to help determine whether the car will safely cross the intersection. If the system determines the need to stop and senses that the driver is not decelerating quick enough, it issues a visual warning on the windshield and an audio alarm to the driver via integrated vehicle electronics.

Consumer-driven safety innovation

In the future, intelligent vehicles will use wireless and GPS technologies to connect with each other, and this future technology builds on Ford's class-leading innovations of today. Many Ford vehicles already use radar systems and cameras to help anticipate obstacles and potentially dangerous situations. In the future, consumers may even be able to use advanced wireless communications in mobile phones to connect through technologies such as Ford SYNC® to help them respond to even more potential dangers and inconveniences.



Drive safe.