

Velodyne Lidar have reportedly hired bankers to help the company go public, with hopes of being valued at more than USD \$1.8bn. The company say they are the leading supplier of lidar sensors to the automotive industry with more than 250 customers globally.



Velodyne Lidar provide solutions for autonomy and driver assistance. Founded in 1983 and headquartered in San Jose, California, Velodyne are known for their portfolio of breakthrough lidar sensor technologies. They say CEO and founder David Hall invented real-time surround view lidar systems in 2005, "revolutionising perception and autonomy for automotive, new mobility, mapping, robotics, and security". Velodyne's high-performance product line includes a broad range of sensing solutions.

In April, Velodyne signed an agreement with Japanese manufacturer Nikon to mass-produce lidar sensors. Sendai Nikon Corporation, a Nikon subsidiary, will manufacture lidar sensors for Velodyne with plans to start mass production in the second half of this year. Velodyne President and CBDO Marta Hall says "Mass production of our high-performance lidar sensors is key to advancing Velodyne's immediate plans to expand sales in North America, Europe, and Asia...for years, Velodyne has been perfecting lidar technology to produce thousands of lidar units for autonomous vehicles (AVs) and advanced driver assistance systems (ADAS). It is our goal to produce lidar in the millions of units with manufacturing partners such as Nikon."