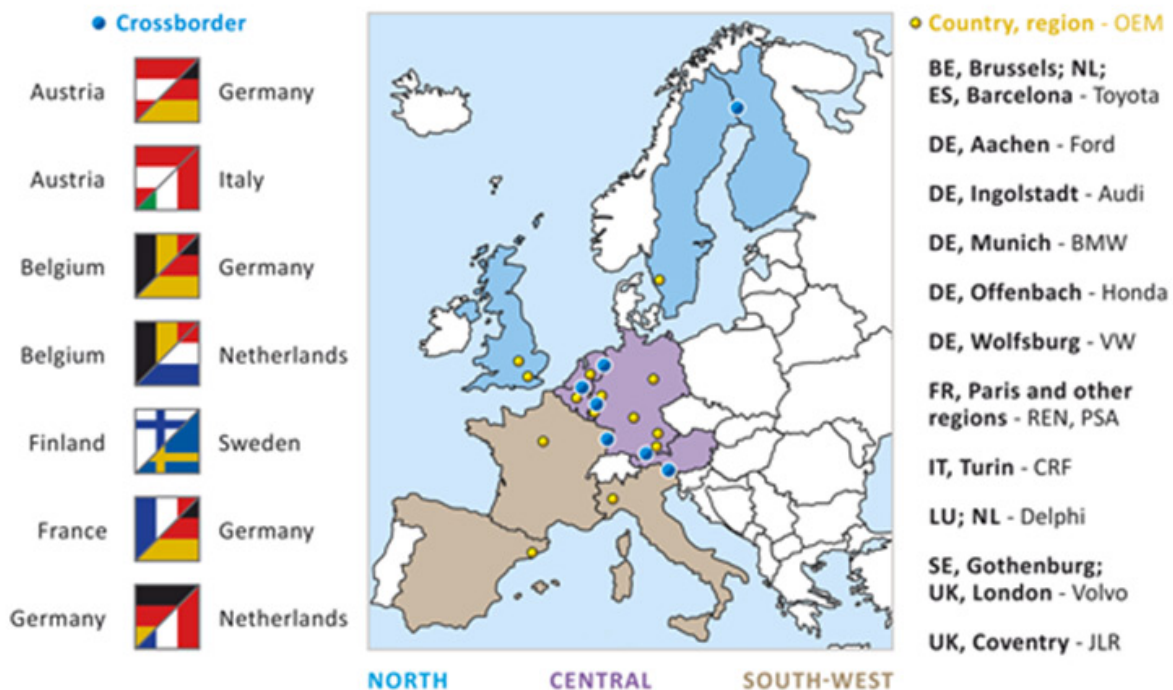


## VW Leads Big European Self-Drive Study

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The four-year L3Pilot research initiative has been launched in Wolfsburg, Germany, with the project aiming to analyse the opportunities for using automated driving technologies to improve future mobility systems.

Under Volkswagen's leadership, a research consortium of 13 European automobile manufacturers, three major automotive technology suppliers, 11 research institutes and universities, and small and mid-sized companies, will collect data from automated vehicles in 11 European countries. The overall project budget of €68m (US\$81.5m) includes support from the European Commission (EC) valued at €36m (US\$41m), making it the biggest EU-sponsored project of its kind.



The consortium will operate a fleet of 100 vehicles with 1,000 drivers on public roads in order to test automated driving systems that conform to SAE Level 3 (Conditional Automation with some human intervention) and Level 4 (High Automation with no human intervention required). The testing will be under 'real-world' conditions and will cover a wide range of applications, from parking and overtaking, to driving in complex city traffic.

Overall, the project will collect data for assessing technical aspects of vehicle performance, user acceptance, driving and travel behavior, and the impact of these systems on traffic and society. The broad spectrum of driving situations means that L3Pilot is the first project worldwide to implement and test such comprehensive functions of automated driving in practice.

The auto makers involved in the project are: Volkswagen, Audi, BMW, Fiat, Daimler, Ford,

Honda, Jaguar Land Rover, Opel, Groupe PSA, Renault, Toyota, and Volvo.