'Multi-Car Collision Avoidance' project in UK aims to prevent motorway pileups

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Project is led by a consortium including Applus Idiada, Cranfield University, and Westfield Sports Cars, Cosworth, SBD Automotive, and Connected Places Catapult.

The Innovate UK and the Centre for Connected and Autonomous Vehicles (CCAV) has initiated a new project to prevent motorway pileups, *IoT Tech News* reported on 27 March. The project, called Multi-Car Collision Avoidance (MuCCA), is led by a consortium including Applus Idiada, Cranfield University, Westfield Sports Cars, Cosworth, SBD Automotive, and Connected Places Catapult.

"The MuCCA project has delivered a world-first, achieving collective collision avoidance behavior between real cars, in a clear demonstration of fully automated cooperative control mediated by vehicle-to-vehicle radio. Combining connectivity and automated driving like this has applications beyond the valuable emergency role proven here to more general cooperative vehicle movement, promising enhanced safety and efficiency on our roads in future," said Charlie Wartnaby, technical lead at Applus IDIADA UK, as quoted by *IoT Tech News*.

Significance: MuCCA, is working on what autonomous driving is eventually meant to do, which is use data and technology to prevent accidents. According to the article, UK sees around 1,700 annual deaths due to road accidents and over 22,000 serious injuries. The project is aimed at decreasing these numbers.

The technology is essentially a combination of vehicle-to-vehicle (V2V) and AI in which the cars communicate, and the AI helps prevent collisions. Vehicles equipped with MuCCA communicate their location with each other. When a vehicle detects an accident, the information is shared with nearby cars. The data helps the AI to determine an alternative route to avoid the incident.