

AIR PULLMAN, ARRIVA ITALIA, AUTOSTRADALE, FLIXBUS ITALIA, ITS MOVE, WAYLA, and SAT together for a new concept of bus wellness for overnight transportation services. Testing with GARMIN smartwatches on drivers' wrists for passenger safety.

Garmin, a leader in GPS technology for more than 35 years, together with SAT (Sleep Advice Technologies), a small and medium-sized innovative company related to the world of mobility and sleep stroke prevention, and major transportation companies based in Lombardy-which have joined ITS Move training and research center based at MIND Milano Innovation District-have consolidated a collaboration aimed at psycho-physical well-being and prevention in the professional field for bus and shuttle drivers. The agreement saw the participation and sharing of the project with Franco Lucente, Councilor for Transport and Sustainable Mobility of the Lombardy Region, who said "In a time when our bus drivers face major challenges between working time, safety and increased traffic, a new technology that aims at their psycho-physical well-being is an innovation that we believe is important and necessary. That is why we have decided to support and favor the companies that will participate in the pilot test".

Turin-based SAT has developed a unique, patented solution for detecting the transition between a subject's behavioral states (such as wakefulness, drowsiness, sleep) and, most importantly, predicting the onset of sleep well before they can lose control of their activities. It is a solution that enabled the company to be honored at the prestigious Garmin Health Awards, the awards established by the American brand that valorize the development of cutting-edge solutions capable of combining the power of Garmin smartwatch and fitness tracker technology within health and wellness programs to create long-term benefits for companies, patients, and users' health.

In particular, Garmin Health offers complete access to the vast amount of data collected by Garmin's wrist-worn devices and provides unprecedented control over device functionality. It also offers software services and support for developers to integrate their wearables into enterprise programs.

FleetPREDICT, the subject of the test, is a driver fatigue management and safety solution designed for drivers, particularly in long-haul and commercial driving, which is the result of a collaboration between SAT and its Australian partner WHG.

Using Garmin Venu® Sq 2 wearables, which allow monitoring of vital parameters as heart rate and heart rate variability, and patented algorithms, FleetPREDICT provides real-time information regarding fatigue and prediction of “sleepiness” without invasive cameras. It activates only when the driver starts the vehicle and begins to move, offering alerts about fatigue and incipient sleepiness to help keep drivers safe and alert on the road.

Air Pullman, Arriva Italia Autostradale, Flixbus Italia, ITS Move and Wayla will equip their drivers with Garmin devices equipped with SAT technology, involving them in a six-month test, with subsequent analysis of the results to explore the benefits on work activity. The initiative also aims to include students from the ITS Move course who will be able to understand the risks of working in transportation and the technological tools to support them, including in logistics, the subject of their studies.

“The focus on driver well-being is fundamental,” said Stefano Viganò, Managing Director of Garmin Italy. “Thanks to wearable technology, today as never before we are able to provide analysis and tools that are a concrete support to the well-being and safety of those who drive for many hours. Garmin is at the forefront of road safety technology: this test, conducted together with important companies that have long taken safety as a fundamental commitment, is one more piece we are putting along the path toward ever safer roads and drivers.”

Companies perspectives

“Air Pullman, a company with more than 75 years of experience in the passenger transport sector, travels millions of kilometers each year transporting people with the goal of continuously improving the safety of our customers and drivers, including through the means that new technologies make available to us.” - Alessandro Oldrini, Air Pullman CEO.

“Professionalism and reliability are characteristics that make Autostradale a leading company in trucking. Our commitment lies in maintaining and improving the quality of our services, to guarantee passengers a safe and impeccable service” - Valentina Astori, Managing Director.

“Flixbus is a company that has always been committed to ensuring high safety standards for its passengers. This pilot project is a further step towards this important goal” - Cesare Neglia, Managing Director Flixbus Italy.

“Wayla is the first van pooling service in Italy. This experimentation in partnership with Garmin and SAT is a further opportunity to offer innovative and quality solutions to our customers, under the banner of safety” - Mario Ferretti, Founder & Chief Strategy Officer.

“We train high-level specialized technicians who can bring value and innovation to Logistics and Transportation companies. Participating in this experiment gives us the opportunity to try and test new tools that can increase the safety of our professionals.” - Michele Bergonzi, ITS MOVE Director.

"For Arriva Italia, the well-being and safety of its employees and the passengers it transports every day are a top priority. A constant commitment that translates into the research and experimentation of innovative solutions aimed at improving staff working conditions and ensuring an increasingly comfortable and safe travel experience" - Angelo Costa, CEO of Arriva Italia.

"We are proud that our sleep prediction technology is part of this pilot project involving leading road passenger transport companies. Predicting and analyzing drivers' sleep data can provide incredible information. This trial aims to increase passenger and driver safety."- Bruno Dilecce, Product Development Manager at SAT.

More info at: <https://www.garmin.com/it-IT/>

Su Garmin

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