



Continental, having demonstrated their AutoLinQ Connected Services Platform to automotive OEMs, have now released the first automotive-grade head unit capable of downloading Android applications.

Continental are designing AutoLinQ as a flexible automotive-grade hardware and software platform. The scalable architecture is based on various views and provides vehicle owners with information relevant to their location. Through AutoLinQ's mobile view, vehicle owners can ask questions or send commands from their cell phone to their vehicle, including options such as checking its status and location—which could mean the beginning of the end of losing a car in a giant car park.

The AutoLinQ development kit, which Continental expects will be available in Q2 of this year, includes API documentation, vehicle simulators and emulators, a Vehicle Emulator, and the HMI design guide.

One of the keys to designing a successful application will be an easy-to-use human/machine interface that will enable drivers and passengers to remain focused on the road while accessing information at highway driving speeds. Continental plan to begin demonstrating applications, via a new application store, to their automotive customers in the second half of this year.