

The automotive industry's growing commitment to the environment and investing in new technology is taking centre stage at the Paris Motor Show 2018, where a large host of manufacturers are showcasing their latest innovations in electric vehicles and autonomous cars. Exhibitors at the show have focused their energy on presenting their latest cutting-edge technologies, mainly in the form of electric vehicles (EVs) and driverless luxury cars. Possibly the most eye-catching idea among these is EQC, showcased by German manufacturer Mercedes-Benz, whose 100% electric SUV.

The model, which is set to be commercialised in the second half of 2019, is part of Mercedes-Benz's all-electric EQ range. It will be supported by the Mercedes Me app, which allows users to plan their routes to the minutest detail and find out where the nearest charging locations – called Ionity – can be found. The car also comes with the Wallbox, which can charge the car at home to 80% in about 40 minutes.

Driverless technologies are equally dominating some of the biggest stages at the Paris Motor Show, particularly in the form of taxis and ride-hailing services rather than utility cars.



Renault was a prime example. A home sponsor for the event, the manufacturer took to Paris to present its EZ range of autonomous and electric vehicles, namely EZ-ULTIMO, EZ-PRO and EZ-GO.

Described by Renault as a robot-vehicle, EZ-ULTIMO is a concept self-driving car with a level 4 autonomy – meaning it can travel through urban and non-urban environments – and is furnished with a spacious, luxury seating area featuring velvet seats and a table.

The other two models, GO and PRO, are both driverless and electric. The former has been conceived to work as a shared vehicle complementary to passenger cars and public transport options.