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DPDgroup and Groupe Renault lay the groundwork for the future of last mile delivery

DPDgroup creates new delivery scenarios with the autonomous concept car Renault EZ-PRO revealed today by Groupe Renault in Hannover.

"This project gives us the ability to imagine how optimised last mile deliveries can shape tomorrow's urban life through the implementation of greener and closer solutions. DPDgroup is thrilled to share this vision with a key automotive player like Groupe Renault", says Thomas Steverding, Senior Group Manager Process & Development at DPD in Germany, in charge of the autonomous vehicles innovation programme within DPDgroup.



Last mile delivery in the next 10 years

The last mile delivery market is growing and is expected to continue to grow exponentially: e-shopping is exploding; in 2017, 57% of the European population was identified as e-shoppers¹. Among them, heavy shoppers make an average of 45 online purchases per year (around one per week), while in the UK, the most mature market in Europe, they make 82 online purchases per year. Looking for goods not available in their country, or for better deals, more than 50% of them have already bought from a foreign website, especially from the UK, and increasingly from China².

As a consequence, by 2025, the total parcel volume delivered to individuals will have doubled in Europe: almost 15 billion parcels per year will be delivered, mainly in cities. At the same time, cities are implementing a growing number of initiatives to drastically reduce congestion and pollution.

From this perspective, the challenge for a delivery company such as DPDgroup is to contribute to more sustainable cities: permanently innovate to provide a better and smarter delivery service to customers, optimise city centre delivery processes, and develop ever more agile urban delivery vehicles.

¹ Eurostat

² [DPDgroup E-shopper barometer 2017](#) conducted by Kantar TNS with 24,871 participants across 21 European countries

DPDgroup is thrilled to work on this project with Groupe Renault as part of its innovation & CSR programmes, which ease the daily work of our drivers and meet the expectations of citizens as well as public authorities regarding smart cities.

DPDgroup sets up new delivery scenarios with the concept car

Autonomous vehicles have the potential to become a disruptive technology for the transport industry and to have a major impact on the basics of the business – on people, networks and infrastructures.

The Renault autonomous vehicle would make it possible to deliver at least part of the parcel volumes with an unprecedented degree of flexibility and enable entirely new delivery scenarios, especially in inner-city areas.

DPDgroup has created concrete scenarios: new delivery schemes for the benefit of local authorities and end consignees:

- Autonomous transport to the delivery area in the inner-city:

The vehicle is loaded at a DPDgroup sorting centre on the outskirts of the city and then travels on its own to a given meeting point in the city centre.

There, the driver takes charge of the vehicle without having to collect it beforehand and can then dedicate more time to the deliveries.

- Mobile lockers:

The concept car Renault EZ-PRO is used as a mobile locker that will allow DPDgroup to schedule delivery points and send notifications to end consignees, who will be able to collect or return their parcel by themselves from a given location.

The concept car also allows end consignees to define a place of delivery. They will have the ability to request that the autonomous vehicle deliver at the location and timeslot of their choice (e.g. their home very early in the morning, their workplace during lunch, etc.).

“The collaboration between the two brands can go further. With its last mile delivery experience, DPDgroup is a perfect match to develop forthcoming scenarios with us”, says Philippe Divine, Light Commercial Vehicle Strategy Director at Groupe Renault.

DPDgroup, an innovative delivery expert

DPDgroup provides best-in-class delivery services to a large variety of companies and to end consignees.

DPDgroup designs innovative delivery solutions that aim to provide user-friendly and flexible services:

- 32,000 local **Pickup** points: out-of-home delivery solutions in pick-up locations around the corner. Close to 95% of consumers have access to a Pickup point less than 15 minutes from their home.

- **Predict**, a unique interactive delivery service, which allows end consignees to be notified on the morning of their delivery within a one-hour window. The recipients can choose to reschedule the delivery to another day or location if they wish.
- Delivery in a prearranged, one-hour time slot chosen by the consignee, with **Precise** in the United Kingdom with DPD and in France with Chronopost.
- Deliveries by **drone**, with the launch of a regular commercial line in 2016, marking a world first.

About DPDgroup

DPDgroup is the second largest international parcel delivery network in Europe. DPDgroup combines innovative technology and local knowledge to provide a flexible and user-friendly service for both shippers and shoppers. With its industry-leading Predict service, DPDgroup is setting a new standard for convenience by keeping customers closely in touch with their delivery.

With more than 68,000 delivery experts and a network of more than 32,000 local Pickup points, DPDgroup delivers 4.8 million parcels to over 230 countries each day through the brands DPD, Chronopost, SEUR and BRT.

DPDgroup, the parcel delivery network of GeoPost, posted sales of €6.8 billion in 2017. GeoPost is a holding company owned by Le Groupe La Poste.

For more information

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To stay up-to-date with DPDgroup's latest news, follow DPDgroup on [Twitter](#) and [LinkedIn](#)

About Groupe Renault

Groupe Renault has been making cars since 1898. Today it is an international multi-brand group, selling close to 3.76 million vehicles in 134 countries in 2017, with 36 manufacturing sites, 12,700 points of sales and employing more than 180,000 people. To meet the major technological challenges of the future and continue its strategy of profitable growth, the Group is harnessing its international growth and the complementary fit of its five brands, Renault, Dacia and Renault Samsung Motors, Alpine and LADA, together with electric vehicles and the unique Alliance with Nissan and Mitsubishi. With a new team in Formula 1 and a commitment to Formula E, Renault sees motorsport as a vector of innovation and brand awareness.

About Renault Pro+

For more than a century, Renault has been developing, manufacturing and selling Light Commercial Vehicles (LCVs) to meet the needs of demanding business customers around the world. Groupe Renault's global LCV sales have increased by 40% since 2011, reaching a new historic record of 463,000 units in 2017. Today, Renault is the European leader in vans and electric LCVs. Renault Pro+ is Groupe Renault's expert brand offering products, services and solutions tailored to business users, for today and tomorrow.