

PRESS RELEASE

THE ANTOLIN-CTAG JOINT RESEARCH UNIT HAS CONTRIBUTED TO ENSURING SAFETY AND IMPROVING USER EXPERIENCE AND COMFORT

- After four years of joint work, the results are very satisfactory with major advances in the field of safety, automated driving, comfort and health.
- Some of the innovative solutions developed include ozonation, air purification, cabin heating control and lighting systems, among others.
- The insAI Joint Research Unit, which has mobilised a budget of more than 2.2 million euros and a team of 25 researchers, has been supported by the Xunta de Galicia through the Axencia Galega de Innovación (GAIN) with ERDF funding.

Vigo, 9th June 2023.- The R&D&I work carried out within the framework of the insAI Joint Research Unit between Antolin and CTAG has been successfully concluded after four years of development with significant advances that have contributed to ensuring safety and improving user experience and comfort. The insAI project, which has mobilised a budget of more than 2.2 million euros and a working team of 25 researchers, has responded to the need of Antolin, one of the major manufacturers of vehicle interior parts, to be able to advance in the development of intelligent and innovative solutions for vehicle interiors. These types of solutions will be applied in the fields of safety and automated driving, comfort and health.

The lines of action that have been worked on are sensorics, machine vision, connectivity, Cloud Computing, Artificial Intelligence, electronic architecture, mechatronics and HMI.

In the words of Luis Moreno, General Director of CTAG, "we are proud that a group as important as Antolin shares its strategy for the future with us and places its trust in the development of technologies and products that will undoubtedly be incorporated into the vehicles of the future. We have collaborated on numerous research and development projects, for example in the field of advanced materials or in the development and validation of new products, but I would like to highlight the trust that they have placed in us to accompany them in something as complex as the incorporation of intelligence inside the vehicle, in their product portfolio, and that has been the main objective of this Joint Unit that is coming to an end. We already had a precedent with a previous joint unit, called e-SPACE, where the foundations were laid for this successful collaboration that we maintain".

Javier Villacampa, **Group VP, Innovation** at Antolin pointed out that "we have collaborated with CTAG over the last few decades on various innovation projects, both national and European. Nowadays, the vehicle is increasingly becoming a living space, where users want to have maximum safety, comfort, entertainment and quality. The technology required to meet these needs goes far beyond what the automotive industry can offer. That is why we rely on an ever-expanding international innovation ecosystem through collaboration with technology centres (such as CTAG), start-ups and strategic partners, both inside and outside the automotive industry".

For her part, Patricia Argerey, Director of the Axencia Galega de Innovación of the Xunta de Galicia, highlighted the contribution of this Joint Research Unit to the transfer of technology in a strategic sector for Galicia such as the automotive industry, as well as the capacity of Galician technology centres, such as CTAG, to boost the competitiveness of the industry through innovation. Lastly, she pointed out that the innovative solutions developed within this Joint Unit contribute to advancing towards an industrial model based on knowledge and competitiveness and underlined Grupo Antolin's commitment to developing its R&D in Galicia.

insAI's innovative results

Among the innovative results developed, the **ozonation system** stands out, an intelligent, efficient and safe device that is integrated into the car cabin with the capacity to sanitise surfaces and eliminate odours. Another of the innovations carried out is the **air purification system** that efficiently eliminates viruses, bacteria, particles and volatile organic compounds.

The Joint Unit has also worked on an intelligent **thermal comfort** system through radiant surfaces.

In addition, an **advanced control system for the opacity and transparency of the sun visor** has been developed. It controls two sun visors made of different materials that can be darkened in sections. Each sun visor allows the control of three different sections and the system provides the functionality to change the type of sun visor depending on the material.

Finally, the **electronic system for the functional lighting of the cabin** supports the user, either to facilitate the search for elements within the user's field of vision or to support driving assistance systems. It also covers the different ambient lighting scenarios that guarantee comfort inside the vehicle.

Antolin and CTAG have increased their technological capabilities, improving their competitive level and boosting activity in the automotive sector and auxiliary industries. The insAI Joint Research Unit has been financed by the *Axencia Galega de Innovación* through the call for "*Subvencions para a creacion e posta en marcha de Unidades Mixtas de Investigacion*" (DOG No. 35, February 20, 2020) and co-financed by the European Regional Development Fund (ERDF) within the framework of the Galicia ERDF 2014-2020 Operational Programme (file code IN853A-2020/03), with the support of the *Vicepresidencia Primeira e Conselleria de Economía, Industria e Innovación* of the *Xunta de Galicia*.

About Antolin

Antolin is one of the world's largest manufacturers of vehicle components and a global supplier of technological solutions for automotive interiors. The company supplies the world's leading car manufacturers through 130 factories in 25 countries. Antolin has 24,000 employees and sales of €4,451 million in 2022. Antolin offers high added value products via five Business Units: Overheads; Doors & Hard Trim; IPs & Central Consoles; Lighting, HMI & Electronics and Components & JITs.

About CTAG

CTAG, Centro Tecnológico de Automoción de Galicia, is a private centre created to offer advanced technological solutions to the automotive and mobility sector. With more than 1,000 professionals, it supports the industry in the modernisation and adaptation to new technologies in its products and processes. CTAG participates in the development of innovations and large industrial projects. CTAG anticipates the needs of the market with its specific lines of R&D&I. Its main areas of expertise focus on new materials, the factory of the future, electronics and intelligent transport systems (ITS) and advanced validation methodologies.

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