

IPG Automotive Announces Cooperation with Visualization Specialist rFpro

New partnership enables realistic real-time visualization for the simulation solution CarMaker

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Since May of this year, IPG Automotive has been cooperating with the British company rFpro. Specializing in graphics for driving simulators, rFpro now also offers high-resolution real-time visualizations for applications with the CarMaker product family by IPG Automotive.

With rFpro, IPG Automotive has now joined forces with a partner who brings an extensive library of photorealistic high-definition models of public roads and OEM test tracks to the table. The implementation in the release 6.0 of the CarMaker product family enables OEMs and tier-1 suppliers to test camera-based advanced driver assistance systems as well as automated driving functions in virtual test driving on a whole new level.

The realistic visualizations are capable of rendering high-quality virtual scenarios with specific weather conditions such as fog, the winter sun that is low in the sky, reflections or flawed road markings, for example – simulated in HDR and real time. Several synchronized camera feeds from rFpro with these properties can easily be used. “This product extension underlines our goal of modeling real test driving as realistically and reproducibly as possible and complements our 3-D visualization tool IPGMovie by the broad range of functions which rFpro’s visualizations offer,” said Martin Elbs, General Manager Business Development at IPG Automotive.

And there is more to the cooperation between IPG Automotive and rFpro: Scenes created with the simulation solutions of the CarMaker product family are now also visualized in rFpro’s environment, taking advantage of the company’s rendering engine. When the weather settings in CarMaker are changed, for instance, the weather scenes are also automatically re-rendered in rFpro. This means that comprehensive test catalogs for ADAS and training data for deep learning algorithms may be configured.

Similarly, high-quality digital models of real-world public test roads and proving grounds created in rFpro can now be combined with the radar, lidar and ultrasonic sensor models by IPG Automotive.

“We were delighted to have been selected by IPG Automotive as their partner for camera applications,” said rFpro’s Technical Director, Chris Hoyle. “There is a natural synergy between our companies. rFpro is focused on fast, efficient, high-quality rendering; IPG Automotive offers the matching sensor and vehicle

models. This is what complements the software solutions of the CarMaker product family and now enables IPG Automotive's customers to test the entire toolchain virtually in HDR, which will significantly reduce development time and cost."

About IPG Automotive GmbH

As an innovation driver for virtual test driving, the company is a leading global provider of software and hardware products for the automotive and supplier industry. With the areas Simulation Software, Real-time Hardware, Test Systems and Engineering Services, IPG Automotive supports its customers in creating innovations and shaping their development process efficiently.

The innovative solutions CarMaker, TruckMaker, and MotorcycleMaker, as open integration and test platforms, facilitate great savings in time and cost for customers, in a continuous development process of Model-, Software- and Hardware-in-the-Loop, all the way to the Vehicle-in-the-Loop method. The application ranges from the vehicle dynamics simulation, developing and testing of chassis control systems, to interconnected systems such as chassis, powertrain and steering to analyses with regard to e-mobility and hybrid technologies. IPG Automotive is also a leading provider of pioneering solutions for the integration and testing of advanced driver assistance systems.

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Image: The photorealistic visualizations by rFpro enable high-quality virtual scenarios for applications with the CarMaker product family.