Driverless cars

Continuous technological progress over the past decades has allowed us to make our wildest dreams come true. One of these is the technology that allows the car to be controlled without the participation of a driver. A driverless car.

Fully autonomous cars haven’t gone on sale yet, though a lot of cars which are presented on the market are partially automated. However, until we make a fully self-driving car, we need to understand what impact such transport will have on humanity.

There are several advantages and disadvantages I would like to consider.

The first positive aspect that I would like to highlight is security. In theory, self-driving cars should be safer than ordinary cars. While drunk driving is still one of the most common causes of accidents, an automated control system will help to cope with this problem. Unlike people, the software of driverless cars is always focused on the road and cannot be distracted by something. Such mechanism is also programmed to unconditionally follow the rules on the road. In addition, in driverless transport, all safety functions, for example, brakes will be absolutely automatic.

The second thing that should be mentioned is the fact that you don't need a driver's license to use a driverless car. People who do not know how to drive themselves are always dependent on relatives, taxis and public transport. They will be able to move freely, comfortably and independently on automatic vehicle. But still people without driving skills have to use taxies and public transport.

Driverless cars obviously will also greatly facilitate the lives of disabled people who cannot drive a car on their own no matter how much they want.

However, despite the above advantages this type of transport has its disadvantages. One of them is ethics and cybersecurity issues.

Automatic software entails complex ethical problems.

For example, whose safety should be a priority for the system – pedestrians or passengers? Should an automatic system have a universal moral code? Or should it be given a choice in the event of an inevitable accident?

The other side of the same problem is responsibility. When an accident occurs due to the driver's fault, he has to take responsibility. But who will be legally and financially responsible for the accident caused by a driverless car is still unclear.

Every self-driving car will be part of a large network, just as computers are now connected by the Internet. Just like any computer, hackers can gain access to an automatic machine. On the one hand, the incident will result in an unpleasant experience for passengers. One other, it may end in an accident.

To sum up I would like to say that driverless car is undoubtedly a very interesting technology that allows us to do a huge step to the future. Although, on the way to realizing this dream, we will inevitably face a lot of problems. However, in my opinion, no matter how controversial such an invention is, we will definitely see the implementation of this technology in the nearest future.