

## **A Real-world Approach to Autonomous Vehicle Safety**

**Thursday, 26<sup>th</sup> September 2019 12:30 p.m.**

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### **Seminar Overview**

Autonomous vehicles are rapidly becoming a reality with many demonstration projects underway in the UK. Some are designed to replace existing services such as buses or delivery vehicles, others offer new services such as pods – last mile travel in areas such as pedestrianised city centres, airports or university campuses. There is an expectation that AVs will be safer than vehicles operated by a human driver and therefore demonstrating an acceptable level of safety during the trialling of AVs is essential for building trust. Whilst accident causation factors such as fatigue and distraction are avoided when a vehicle is under autonomous control, how can we be sure that peripheral vision is sufficient to capture for example a child about to cross the road? This seminar showcases two current demonstration projects, Capri and Robopilot and the way in which real world evidence has been used to inform the safety case allowing public trials to take place.

### **Presenter**

Ruth Welsh is a Research Fellow within the Transport Safety Research Centre where she has worked in the field of transport safety for 22 years. During this time she has been responsible for delivering projects on behalf of the European Commission, the UK Department for Transport as well as for commercial clients including the Motor Industry. Ruth has acted as a technical advisor for both the UK Department for Transport and for European Working Groups. Her recent research interests focus on methods for Field Operational Tests and Naturalistic Driving Studies and she currently leads the University's contribution to CAV validation and testing acting as the Principle Investigator on the Innovate UK Capri and Robopilot projects.

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