



ZF X AHEAD AUTOMOTIVE

Saving Time and Reducing Costs in Everyday Workshop Operations

With Clarios, HELLA, Niterra and ZF, AHEAD Automotive has developed an AI-based repair assistant for workshops with verified data from the automotive industry.

The Challenge

Independent workshops are increasingly facing difficulties in keeping pace with the evolving demands of modern vehicle servicing. Rapid technological advancements, the growing adoption of EVs, and the shortage of skilled workers are all contributing to mounting pressure in day-to-day operations. Technicians often spend considerable time navigating fragmented sources of information to perform guided diagnostics and identify appropriate repair solutions. Furthermore, the available data is not always verified, leading to inefficiencies and potential errors.

The Solution

Together with Clarios, HELLA, Niterra and ZF, AHEAD developed Qira as a combination of advanced technological expertise with the original equipment (OE) knowledge alongside the practical experience and needs of independent workshops. By directly integrating technical data from manufacturers, Qira (Qualified Intelligent Repair Assistant) provides instant, verified answers to workshop repair queries across all vehicle brands, streamlining diagnostics and decision-making at the push of a button.

The Outcome

Qira has established strong partnerships within the automotive industry, underpinning its credibility and effectiveness. By streamlining the diagnostic process and providing immediate, verified repair solutions, Qira delivers significant time and cost savings for independent workshops. Already live in Germany, the platform is set for further international rollouts. Its integration of manufacturer-sourced technical data ensures the system remains accurate, up to date, and highly dependable, enabling technicians to work more efficiently and with greater confidence.

Project Highlight

The implementation of AHEAD's solution resulted in significant daily time savings and cost reductions in the workshop operations. Over the past few months, measurable improvements have been observed, including enhanced operational efficiency and reduced costs. Based on current trends, these gains are expected to continue scaling in the coming months, further optimising performance and increasing return on investment. The time saved in identifying solutions allows for more vehicles to be repaired, ultimately increasing revenue potential for the workshop and strengthening its long-term competitiveness.

AHEAD Automotive

AHEAD Automotive saves time and reduces costs in daily workshop operations, while also being rewarded for customer loyalty

AHEAD's technology provides a faster, verified repair solution at the push of a button by eliminating the need to search through multiple, often unverified data sources.



Headquarters
Hamburg, Germany

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No. Employees
11 – 50

Website
ahead.group

Acknowledgement

We would like to express our sincere thanks to Oliver Bey (ZF), Dominic Roth (ZF), Marc Lübke (ZF), and Jan Zawadzki (AHEAD Automotive).

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About STARTUP AUTOBAHN powered by Plug and Play

STARTUP AUTOBAHN powered by Plug and Play is an open innovation platform that provides an interface between innovative tech companies and industry-leading corporations.

The basis of the program is the partnership that develops between startups and the corporate business units. The two entities hold an equal footing from the get-go: together they evaluate the potential for a joint venture, move forward to pilot the technology, and work to achieve the ultimate goal – a successful production-ready implementation.

Designed with the intention to exceed startup acceleration, STARTUP AUTOBAHN powered by Plug and Play moderates a community for collaboration with a focus on implementable results.

Over the years, the platform has successfully cultivated over 500 projects with more than 350 startups since its founding in 2016. ■

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