Smart stop in Las Vegas for SAGE Automation

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INTERNET-ENABLED: The OlliStop on display in Las Vegas at CES 2018 and, inset, SA chief executive Adrian Fahey.

SAGE Automation, based at Tonsley, has partnered with a US driverless shuttle manufacturer to launch an internet-enabled smart stop at the popular Consumer Electronics Show in Las Vegas.

SAGE worked with USbased Local Motors on the Accessible OlliStop – engineered to communicate with Local's driverless shuttle Olli.

The OlliStop also uses cameras, communication networks, voice recognition systems, sensors, lighting systems, software and IBM Watson's natural language capabilities to talk to passengers and provide real-time travel information and help.

CES, which runs until Friday, features global technology giants and attracts more than 184,000 attendees, and global media and social media coverage.

SAGE partnered with Local Motors to design and manufacture OlliStop.

SAGE engineered the computer network that enables communications between Olli and the shuttle stop, including the sound and music control, automated announcements for arrival times,

changeable lighting, kinect sensors, camera systems and security systems for remote monitoring of the bus stop.

The control system was manufactured at Tonsley before final assembly in the US.

The OlliStop is designed to also communicate with people who are deaf, hard of hearing or who have difficulty communicating.

"Together with Local Motors, we've engineered something that will positively impact people's daily lives. It'll make public transport more accessible for the elderly and individuals with disabilities," SAGE Automation chief executive Adrian Fahey said.

The stops are built to be relocatable within a few hours – giving road authorities flexibility to trial different locations, or put additional systems in place for major public events.

"Our development of this prototype for the CES show is the first step in rolling it out publicly," Mr Fahey said.

"The real exciting story here is in the technology application – making a shuttle stop 'smart' through the way we integrate technology so it can interact with people and Olli – that's groundbreaking."

The technologies in OlliStop work autonomously, so when somebody enters the smart shuttle stop, a process begins.

"... the OlliStop will use sensors to know when you're standing inside the shuttle stop and will run tailored features based on either your app data, or assistance requested by you," SAGE project engineer Matthew King said.