[STL inspects autonomous vehicles in Shenzhen (with photos)](#)

â€‹The Secretary for Transport and Logistics, Mr Lam Sai-hung, continued his visit to Shenzhen today (July 20). He took test rides on the autonomous vehicles (AVs) in the Futian and Nanshan Districts to gain a better understanding of the operation and development of AVs in Shenzhen.

In the morning, he visited the headquarters of DeepRoute.ai in Shenzhen to learn more about the company's developments and services in AV technology. DeepRoute.ai is a technology company that develops and applies advanced AV technologies. The Shenzhen Municipal Futian District People's Government and the company have co-operated in the road testing and trial operation of autonomous taxis (Robotaxis) in 2021, with about 100 Robotaxis made available to the public for free reservations for trial rides. The company is also the first enterprise to start demonstration operations of autonomous driving in Shenzhen's central business district.

After that, Mr Lam went to Baidu's headquarters in Shenzhen, where he was briefed by company representatives on the Baidu's autonomous driving travel service platform, Apollo Go, and its intelligent operation monitoring system. Apollo Go is the world's largest automated driving travel service provider, with a 188 square kilometre designated area in Shenzhen for its autonomous taxis. A commercial operation of unmanned autonomous taxis has even been launched in Pingshan District.

"In terms of AVs, Mainland China is more advanced in areas such as infrastructure, technological development, pilot testing and application deployment of AV technology. Meanwhile, we have put in place a regulatory framework to accommodate the trial or use of AVs in Hong Kong. Today, I have seen for myself and tested the operation of commercialised autonomous taxi services. I have also gauged the views of the relevant service providers on the promotion of AV services in Hong Kong. It will be conducive to promoting the development of AV technology in Hong Kong and aligning Hong Kong's autonomous driving development with that of other major cities on the Mainland and around the world," Mr Lam said.

Mr Lam returned to Hong Kong this afternoon after concluding his visit to Shenzhen at midday.