The TRATON GROUP and TuSimple, a San Diego based self-driving technology company focused on heavy-duty trucks, have entered into a global partnership to develop self-driving trucks.

The partnership is the first of its kind in Europe, bringing together a global OEM and SAE level 4 (L4) self-driving technology company.

TRATON and TuSimple have launched a development program to operate the first SAE level 4 autonomous hub-to-hub route between Södertälje to Jönköping in Sweden using Scania trucks. As part of the partnership, TRATON has also taken a minority stake in TuSimple.

Matthias Gründler, Chief Executive Officer at TRATON GROUP said, “The global partnership with TuSimple is another step towards becoming a Global Champion. Innovative future technologies that provide additional value to our customers represent a key part of our strategy.” The first test vehicles are aiming for Level 4 (high automation). TuSimple have already been trying out its technology since 2015 with several million test km on public roads. They are leaders in autonomous driving, specializing in perception and night vision.

Valeo’s health shield for safety in buses

Valeo claims to have developed the world’s most powerful air sterilization system for bus and coach cabins. Upon activation, the system eliminates, in a single airflow cycle, more than 95% of viruses, including Covid-19, as well as any bacteria or mold present in the air circulating in the cabin, as per company sources.

Irrespective of the source of infection, whether inside or outside the vehicle, the Valeo-designed modules are effective throughout the vehicle’s journey with passengers onboard. The Valeo devices are available as a standalone solution box or they can be directly integrated into the vehicle’s air conditioning systems. They use ultraviolet light technology, similar to that used in medical and hospital facilities.

The UV rays work as both a bactericide and a germicide and can kill microbes such as viruses and pathogens. The rays stop these microbes from spreading and can be used as an alternative to other disinfection methods, avoiding the use of chemical products.