

7 LESSONS LEARNED

IN FIELDING AUTONOMOUS VEHICLES

CORY ROWE MINING PROJECT MANAGER

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WHO WE ARE

- FOUNDED 15 YEARS AGO, ABOUT 100 EMPLOYEES
- LOCATED IN LOGAN, UTAH, USA
- STRONG TIES TO ACADEMIA:









WHAT WE DO

Automate ground vehicle systems

WE ADAPT OUR PLATFORM BUILDING BLOCK ALGORITHMS FOR:

- MULTIVEHICLE BEHAVIOR
- COORDINATION
- OPERATION
 OPTIMIZATION



ASI FACILITY

- 100 ACRES
- 24 HOUR FUNCTIONAL SAFETY AND DURABILITY TESTING AND SUPPORT
- FIBER OPTIC CONNECTION TO CUSTOMER SITES





7 LESSONS LEARNED

IN FIELDING AUTONOMOUS VEHICLES



LESSON 1

SIMPLICITY

It can never be too simple:

- SIMPLE INSIDE
- SIMPLE TO MODIFY
- SIMPLE TO SETUP
- SIMPLE TO OPERATE
- SIMPLE TO SERVICE



"Follow them Home"

- Scott Cook



CO-FOUNDER

Find every way possible to observe how your customers are using your system.

VIRTUALLY FOLLOW THEM HOME

- PRODUCTIVITY DATA IS NOT ENOUGH
- SOFTWARE USE
 CAPTURE AND ABILITY
 TO PLAY IT PACK



UX professionals are worth the money!



COLLISION AVOIDANCE UI

PADDOCK DUMP ZONE UI



Serviceability will limit your ability to scale more than a lack of customers

MUST HAVE TOOLS AND SENSING THAT:

- SIMPLIFIES COMPLEXITY
- REPLACES THE 5 MISSING SENSES



1. FLEET DIAGNOSTICS

2. DOZER DIAGNOSTICS

3. PROCESSOR DIAGNOSTICS



LESSON 2

SYSTEM FEEDBACK



SYSTEM FEEDBACK

Creatively find ways to assure installation and maintenance are done correctly





SYSTEM FEEDBACK

Sabotage can kill programs and people.

PROACTIVELY AVOID IT!

- PUT PROTECTIONS IN PLACE AND EDUCATE WORKERS ABOUT THEM.
- SYNCHRONIZE BLACK
 BOX PLAYBACK OF
 DATA AND VIDEO



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SAFETY

LESSON 3



OVERRIDING SAFETY ALERTS QUICKLY BECOMES AUTOMATIC. *EXAMPLE PICTURE - NOT OUR TRUCK

SAFETY

People blindly trust driverless vehicles far more than human driven vehicles.

IT'S A SLIPPERY SLOPE!

- STOP MONITORING THEM
- IGNORE THEM
- TAUNT THEM!





LESSON 4

SIZE: THE NEW MATH



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Fuel, equipment price, service, shovel size, batch processing, transport, downtime impact





SIZE: THE NEW MATH



RETURN ON INVESTMENT

LESSON 5





RETURN ON INVESTMENT

It is far beyond labor but must be quantified

- FEWER VEHICLES, LESS LABOR, LESS DOWNTIME...
- Less Maintenance: e.g. 3X the tire life
- 10 HOUSES!





LESSON 6

PARTIAL AUTONOMY



PARTIAL AUTONOMY

Sometimes Partial Autonomy is all that's needed.

Agriculture Auto-Pilot Model

- SPOTTING
- DUMPING
- LONG HAULS

Leader Follower Convoy

- GPS
- GUIDELINE STRING







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LESSON 7

MITIGATE LIABILITY



MITIGATE LIABILITY

Liability can be a bigger hurdle than technical challenges.

PEOPLE DISABLE SAFETY SYSTEMS AND WIN LAWSUITS IN EVERY INDUSTRY.

- SUPPORT BEST PRACTICE STANDARDS ESTABLISHMENT
- DESIGN TAMPER PROOF SYSTEMS
- GET GOOD INSURANCE





AUTONOMOUS MINING



QUESTIONS?

CORY ROWE MINING PROJECT MANAGER