Hyundai Motor Group Chairman Euisun Chung Visits U.S. to Review Future Mobility Strategies

Chairman Chung visited Motional and Boston Dynamics to discuss the future of the business and strengthen Hyundai Motor Group’s resolve to provide human-centered mobility.

The Chairman discussed with executives and employees of Motional about joint projects, such as IONIQ 5 autonomous car development, during his first-time visit since the Group’s investment announcement.

On his visit to Boston Dynamics, the Chairman also reviewed developments in the robot industry and experienced various robot technologies firsthand.

At Motional: IONIQ 5 autonomous car tests, robotaxis and more

During his visit to Motional, Chairman Chung discussed ways to collaborate as well as the direction and advancement plan for future business. At Motional’s R&D facility, the Chairman will take a tour of the facility and meet with researchers.

Among various collaborative projects, Chairman Chung inspected the autonomous Hyundai IONIQ 5 battery electric vehicle (BEV), which is equipped with Motional’s next-generation autonomous driving platform. Motional is currently testing the self-driving BEV on roads in the U.S.

Last year, Motional obtained the industry’s first unmanned autonomous driving test license in the state of Nevada, and it plans to commercialize a robotaxi service using unmanned autonomous vehicles with Lyft in 2023.

Headquartered in Boston, Motional has offices in Pittsburgh, Las Vegas, Santa Monica and Singapore, and has opened an additional office in Seoul, which will serve as another core technology hub and will test autonomous driving technologies.

At Boston Dynamics: Robotics on the rise

Chairman Chung also visited the headquarters of Boston Dynamics, which is in the process of being acquired by the Group, and had discussions with its executives about the future of the business and trends in the robotics industry.

He also experienced firsthand Boston Dynamics’ various cutting-edge robotic technologies, such as its first commercial quadrupedal robot, Spot as well as Atlas, a research robot that walks upright like a human, and Stretch, the company’s newest box-moving robot aimed at warehouse automation. Stretch will be Boston Dynamics’ second commercialized product and is scheduled to be released next year.

“In the future, I think robots will play the role of assistants who help people at all times,” said Chairman Chung at a town hall meeting held for Group employees in March this year. “While robots charge themselves and manage schedules, people will be able to focus on more productive and creative work.”

In addition to improving its own robot development capabilities, the Group plans to actively seek synergies with autonomous vehicles, Urban Air Mobility (UAM) and smart factory technologies. Amid the global megatrend of aging populations and non-contact, the robot’s role in public service, such as safety, security, health and disaster relief, is also expected.
About Hyundai Motor Group

Hyundai Motor Group is a global enterprise that has created a value chain based on mobility, steel, and construction, as well as logistics, finance, IT, and service.

With about 250,000 employees worldwide, the Group’s mobility brands include Hyundai, Kia, and Genesis. Armed with creative thinking, cooperative communication and the will to take on any challenges, we strive to create a better future for all.

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