

## Article: Qualcomm Supports European eCall Public Safety Project

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### Qualcomm Supports European eCall Public Safety Project



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Qualcomm has announced its support for the eCall public safety initiative, a project designed by the European Commission to improve transportation safety by providing assistance to motorists involved in a collision anywhere in the European Union.

According to the company, their Qualcomm Germany engineering team has been leading the system development for an in-band voice-channel modem, the eCall solution, which meets the European Commission's requirements.

Andrew Gilbert, executive vice president of Qualcomm and president of Qualcomm Internet Services, MediaFLO Technologies and Qualcomm Europe, said that based upon the company's experience with modems and speech codecs, they realized that the company had the technology and understanding to develop a technical solution that met the eCall requirements.

Qualcomm officials explained that a collision activates on-vehicle sensors, which causes an emergency voice call (E112) to be established through the cellular network to local emergency agencies via the Public-Safety Answering Point (PSAP).

The PSAP serves as a focal point for public access to emergency services. Being a centralized point of contact, the PSAP obtains necessary information and directs the caller to the proper agency.

Along with enabling two-way speech communication between the motorist and the PSAP operator, eCall also employs an in-band voice-channel modem to transmit position location, airbag deployment, Vehicle Identification Number and other relevant information over the cellular network to the PSAP operator.

Officials said that the in-band voice-channel modem enables the use of existing cellular networks to support deployment of an end-to-end eCall solution in vehicles and PSAPs.

Yesterday, Firethorn Holdings, a Qualcomm company, and Fundtech, a provider of global transaction banking solutions, announced that the two companies will work together to add mobile connectivity to Fundtech's CASHplus cash management system.

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*Anshu Shrivastava is a contributing editor for TMCnet. To read more of Anshu's articles, please visit her [columnist page](#).*

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