

Women In Automotive Interview Series

Part of Informa Tech Automotive Group's Summer Festival of Automotive.

In partnership with:



Meet Divya Agarwal, Roboticist, Facebook

1. Why did you get involved in automotive?

When I first heard about Delphi doing the longest drive done by an automated vehicle in North America back in 2015, it was inspiring. I was working at Delphi for a summer and then moved to their Mountain View office working on building automated cars. It was all very exciting, automated vehicle technologies were just beginning to disrupt the automotive industry. And now a lot of the big and traditional automotive firms have either invested in self-driving car companies or created their own teams.



2. What are you most excited about that you are working on right now?

Automated Technologies are already pushing the frontiers of technology in many spaces like deep learning, sensor technologies and others. This will have a great impact on our day-to-day lives, and I am excited to be a part of bringing the change.

3. What is the biggest opportunity in autotech right now?

Self-driving cars draw upon many different engineering disciplines, which has opened up several jobs. It's given anyone interested in transforming automotive an opportunity to join this revolution.

4. How do you see today's global pandemic reshaping the AV industry?

The global pandemic has brought the focus on automated technologies. Self-driving cars and trucks combined with robotics could allow for fully automated food and medical supply solutions with no-human in loop. Companies working on them have a great chance and a core business reason to deliver these solutions now more than ever.

5. Why does diversity matter in this field? Anything in particular that you are doing to promote diversity in your company and/or our industry?

Diversity is important in every field, but in automotive it's more important than ever now. As self-driving car algorithms rely heavily on training data, we want to make sure our data is not biased. The key to that is bringing in diverse and creative perspectives which will come when we have a mix of people from different backgrounds, genders and race.

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I have had good mentorship from my peers and I strongly believe in paying it forward. Therefore, I mentor and reply to anyone who reaches out for career guidance.

6. What advice do you have for rising women in this space?

Believe in yourself and bring in your ideas! The gender diverse perspective is required to shape the new landscape that will be created by self-driving cars.

Thanks, Divya for taking the time to talk to us about your experience working in Automotive.

For more insightful intelligence, please visit the [Summer Festival of Automotive](#).