

## Forum 8 allows people to drive via brainwave activity

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New modelling and simulation software from Forum 8 allows people to drive a car with their mind—albeit in a computer simulation at the company's booth on the showroom floor.

A new brainwave scanner fits over the driver's head with a sensor in the middle of the forehead and a clip attached to the earlobe. The device measures brainwave activity, focusing on the user's level of concentration and relaxation. The more focused the driver becomes, the faster the vehicle travels down the simulated road.



The power of the mind: Yoichiro Ito of Forum 8

According to Dr. Brendan Hafferty, general manager, Forum 8, the brainwave scanner has been in development for more than a year and can be the first step in helping disabled people drive.

"[Good simulations] start with realistic modelling. If you can replicate the real world, you can help people do anything," said Dr. Hafferty.

Based in Japan, Forum 8 has been developing simulation software for more than 30 years, recently focusing on interactive simulations built off 3D and virtual reality worlds. Simulations include flood modelling, evacuation analysis and urban and transportation planning. The hyper-realistic models then link up with microsimulation software to create an interactive experience.

In fact, Dr. Hafferty says that many of the driving simulations seen on the showroom floor this week in Montreal were in fact models then link up with microsimulation software to create an interactive experience.

Booth 421

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