



Planzer and LOXO are further developing city logistics

Dietikon, September 19, 2024. The Swiss logistics company Planzer and the tech start-up LOXO are rolling out their first joint pilot project, 'Planzer – Dynamic Micro Hub with LOXO', in the city of Bern on 19 September 2024. Using their combined logistics and technology expertise, the two Swiss firms aim to take city logistics in Switzerland to a new level.

More and more cities and urban centres are striving for sustainable transport solutions, as the consequences of climate change and pollution levels increase and storage space declines. Highly automated Level 4 driving (without a driver in specific cases) is on the rise, globally and in Switzerland. The new Automated Vehicles (AV) Act ¹ is expected to come into force in spring 2025. This will bring huge opportunities for freight mobility and last-mile parcel delivery.

Efficient delivery to recipients' front doors

In order to exploit this potential, create value and meet the increasing demands on urban supply chains, Planzer and LOXO have launched the 'Planzer – Dynamic Micro Hub with LOXO' project. The other partners involved in the project are: City of Bern, Bozzio AG, Bosch AG, SwissMoves, Noviv Mobility AG and SAAM. The Dynamic Micro Hub is one of the most advanced applications for automated technology in parcel delivery. LOXO has installed the LOXO Digital Driver™ navigation software in a VW ID. Buzz Cargo Van, along with two interchangeable box chassis that have been specially designed by KYBURZ and Planzer for this application. As a tribute to its founding family, Planzer has named the vehicle Mathilde.

Pilot phase in the city of Bern

During the two-year pilot phase in the city of Bern, Mathilde will navigate several times a day from the Planzer railway centre on Murtenstrasse to 14 strategic transfer points for last-mile distribution. These points are spread throughout the city of Bern region, connected by an approved 67-kilometre route network, parts of which feature the most challenging traffic situations, such as lots of bikes and pedestrians. This is where the two interchangeable box chassis containing parcels will be transferred to small electric vehicles and delivered to end customers by Planzer Parcel drivers. After successfully completing the pilot phase, Planzer and LOXO are planning to develop their own service with eight interchangeable box chassis and roll this out in other Swiss cities.

¹ See ['Automated Vehicles \(AV\) Act'](#) draft consultation, Federal Roads Office FEDRO, 18 October 2023



Committed to urban living space

With this novel concept, the innovation partners aim to address the increasing demands on urban supply chains and ensure the scalability of their disruptive solution. The pilot project is a launch pad for data and dynamics-driven urban city logistics. With near zero-emission delivery, it contributes to greater sustainability for cities as a living space. Nils Planzer, CEO and VRP of Planzer says: *'With this pilot project, LOXO and Planzer as innovation partners aim to lay the foundations for sustainable, data-driven city logistics that make urban supply chains more efficient and eco-friendly.'*

Helping shape the sustainability transformation

'Planzer – Dynamic Micro Hub with LOXO' is intended to demonstrate that environmental and economic targets can go hand in hand. As a future operator of autonomous vehicles in Switzerland, Planzer wants to help shape the upcoming sustainability transformation of local delivery. As part of its 'City Logistics 2028 – dynamism on the last mile' strategy, the family company is pursuing another project involving highly automated driving. The pilot project with LOXO in Bern is considered to be a forward-looking extension of Planzer's current city logistics concept that has been using low-emission rail for transport between its own urban railway centres since 1996. As well as reducing emissions, it also optimises the efficiency of last-mile distribution using improved routes and more flexible vehicles.

Making intelligent automation scalable

By integrating the LOXO Digital Driver™ – Europe's first navigation software to be used on public roads – LOXO aims to validate the AI-based Level 4 technology on an urban scale in Swiss cities. Swiss approval of this autonomous level is adopting a multi-phase approach. LOXO's Software-as-a-Service (SaaS) solution can be installed in almost any drive-by-wire vehicle. Developed specifically for the commercial vehicle sector, it uses virtual mapping to increase its scalability, ensuring that operations continue to run quickly and cost-effectively. Amin Amini, CEO of LOXO, describes the close collaboration with Planzer as follows: *'We're confident that this partnership will not only expand Planzer's business, but that the technology can also become the standard for an even more efficient last mile.'*



Further information on the project can be found at <https://loxo.planzer-paket.ch>.

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About Planzer

Planzer was established in 1936 as a sole proprietorship and has operated as a family-owned stock company since 1966. With its roots in the Limmat Valley, the logistics company now employs a staff of over 6,500, including more than 370 apprentices, across 72 locations in Switzerland, Italy, Germany, France, Liechtenstein and Hong Kong. Its comprehensive portfolio offers a wide range of services and total solutions well beyond the core business of national cargo transport and warehouse logistics. For some years now, Planzer has not only been serving business customers, but private customers as well. In these business areas, the family company uses a retro logo for old-style branding. With Planzer Parcel, for example, a parcel service for shipments up to 30 kg.

About Mathilde

Mathilde Planzer, née Mathilde Rehm, was the wife of Max Planzer, the founder of Planzer Transport AG. Mathilde and Max married in 1934, laying the foundations for today's company. Mathilde played a crucial role in developing the business. She not only helped with the accounts, but also actively delivered goods by handcart or truck, especially during the Second World War, to keep the business running. In 1938, she passed her truck driving test without her husband Max's knowledge, as she no longer wanted to deliver goods by bicycle and trailer. Mathilde was known for her energy and drive and was respectfully referred to as the 'mother of the company' by staff. She took care of employee wellbeing and was also committed to helping those in need.

About LOXO

LOXO is a leading Swiss company that pioneers innovative autonomous delivery solutions. Founded in 2018 by Amin Amini, Lara Amini and Claudio Panizza, LOXO's mission is to revolutionise the way in which goods are delivered in Europe. The firm specialises in the development and use of Software-as-a-Service (SaaS) solutions that empower commercial vehicles with autonomy and boost business growth for its customers. The fully vehicle-agnostic LOXO Digital Driver™ software can equip virtually any commercial vehicle with SAE Level 4 automation. LOXO also operates its own fleet of delivery vehicles, LOXO Alpha and LOXO R1. More information is available at www.LOXO.ch.