

Published on: 4 March 2021

Media Information

Start of the digitization campaign:

Artificial intelligence joins the police force in the Saarland

As part of a digitization campaign in which a wide variety of digital solutions and ideas of the Saarland police will be presented in the coming months, Interior Minister Klaus Bouillon presented today, Thursday, March 4, 2021, the first project of the campaign in a video conference together with Prof. Dr. August-Wilhelm Scheer, CEO of Scheer Holding.

It is a solution that uses artificial intelligence (AI) to aid the police in the processing of traffic accident reports. By automating the plausibility check of accident reports, the manual checking for the police officers is reduced by more than 80 percent.

As Interior Minister Klaus Bouillon explained, “our highly qualified staff are thus relieved of time-consuming and cost-intensive routine work and have more time for the core duties.”

Prof. August-Wilhelm Scheer summed this up, adding that “expedient solutions must enable local authorities and administrations to develop new processes and to implement them easily. This will minimize the workload and improve the service quality. Process automation, combined with the potential of artificial intelligence, is paving the way for this.

Until now, an average of more than 30,000 accidents per year in the Saarland have been checked manually in a very meticulous and time-consuming manner. The recording of accidents serves not only for the prosecution of criminal and administrative offenses and to prevent future accidents, but also to identify, prevent and eliminate the causes of accidents. It is thus an essential part of road safety work.

As the data collected on road accidents are also used for statistical purposes and for settling civil claims, it is all the more important that it is correct, complete and valid so that the right conclusions can be drawn.

This is exactly where the police are now taking the next step. With the Scheer PAS application composition platform (ACP), the manual work for the plausibility checks of the accident reports is reduced by more than 80%.

Process automation, AI and the latest technologies from the field of natural language processing are used to process the information from the accident reports and to allocate it to the statistical categories.

The quality check until now has been carried out by a large number of staff who had to examine each individual accident with regard to the correctness and completeness of the entered data. That was very time-consuming. Now only the few cases that cannot be clearly classified by the AI are processed manually. That is less than 20% – an enormous time savings.

“In times of shortages of personnel, every step that relieves the police officers of administrative work is step towards more presence, proximity to the public and lower workloads,” says Minister Klaus Bouillon.

Prof. August-Wilhelm Scheer: “Innovative technologies help public authorities and administrations to achieve efficient processes and relieve their highly qualified staff of routine work. A crucial aspect for the success of administrative digitization is rapid and efficient implementation with innovative platforms such as Scheer PAS and the trusting cooperation between the implementing partners.”

The Minister of the Interior has continuously invested in improving police information technology since 2015, and with the Saarbrücken Agenda and the Police 2020 program has raised cooperation between the state and national police forces to a new level.

Minister Bouillon: “With my security packages and the investment offensive, I will have made more than 20 million euros available for digitization by 2023, over and above the original budget. That is by far the largest investment in police information technology ever.”

In the next few weeks, Interior Minister Bouillon will be presenting the various digital solutions and ideas of the Saarland police as part of a digitization campaign in order to inform the public in detail about the new working methods.

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