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## Battery support is essential

A recent survey undertaken by CTEK in partnership with Professional Motor Mechanic, has identified as many as 80 per cent more vehicles entering the workshop now, compared to 2020, have a battery that needs attention.

Vehicles today have essentially become very costly computers on wheels. When a vehicle enters a workshop for a service or repair, the diagnostic processes that are now required add more strain to the battery than ever before, risking battery failure.

Therefore, battery support should be an essential part of all workshop practices, both from a safety and efficiency point of view.

The survey also found that only 45 per cent of workshops offer battery charging as part of regular maintenance. Additionally, results showed that although 75 per cent of workshops charge batteries during maintenance, 70 per cent of technicians feel they don't have enough knowledge when it comes to battery support.



**In pictures:** Neil Malam and Durley Garage in Birkenhead have been named Schaeffler REPERT bonus point millionaires, becoming winners of the INA phase of the competition.

## Driverless cars one step closer

New laws introduced into Parliament are said to put safety at the heart of the roll-out of self-driving vehicle technology, allegedly positioning the UK as world leaders.

As announced in the King's speech, the government's new Automated Vehicles (AV) bill, is estimated to create 38,000 new jobs in the UK from the £42 billion industry, with legal frameworks set out.

This will be done through setting the safety threshold for self-driving vehicles in law, ensuring legal liability at all times and making sure only vehicles that meet rigorous self-driving standards can be marketed as such. The aim of this bill, and self-driving vehicles more widely, is to make travel more convenient and accessible and to reduce deaths and injuries from drink driving, speeding and tiredness.

## NEWS IN NUMBERS

# 73%

*of motorists say that the 20mph speed limit adopted in Wales shouldn't be spread across the rest of the UK according to Startline used car tracker. However, 23 per cent do believe that a 20mph limit would save lives.*

# 60.1%

*of UK drivers were in favour of the UK Government's decision to push back the ban on the sale of new petrol and diesel vehicles to 2035. In a survey by 'What Car?' reasons for this varied from infrastructure concerns to those who just simply prefer petrol cars.*

# 99.9%

*The amount second hand battery electric vehicle sales were up in Q3 of 2023 compared to the same period in 2022 according to the latest figures from the SMMT. Overall, BEVs now make up 1.8 per cent of the used car market.*

# 91%

*of new models on sale are now fitted with an electronic handbrake instead of the once universal manual handbrake according to research by CarGurus.*