



Lane Keeping Technology: Helps Drivers Stay Between the Lines

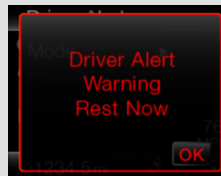
Ford will introduce in early 2012 an innovative Lane Keeping System with three unique features designed to help drivers stay in control behind the wheel, including a Driver Alert System that can notify drivers if it detects signs of drowsiness. In this case, a coffee cup light will appear on the dashboard instrument cluster to suggest the driver take a break.

Driver Alert System



The Driver Alert System is designed to help alert drowsy drivers by monitoring the vehicle's movement compared to lane markings that are tracked by a camera mounted on the windshield. If the system detects a driving pattern consistent with a drowsy driver, a first-level chime will sound and a coffee cup warning will appear on the dashboard instrument cluster to recommend the driver take a break.

If the driver does not respond to this alert and the system continues to sense the driver is fatigued, another warning and chime will be issued. Drivers can monitor their condition on the dashboard at any time.



Customizable choices



Lane assist is accessed in the left-hand cluster display using the left-hand five-way steering wheel switch.

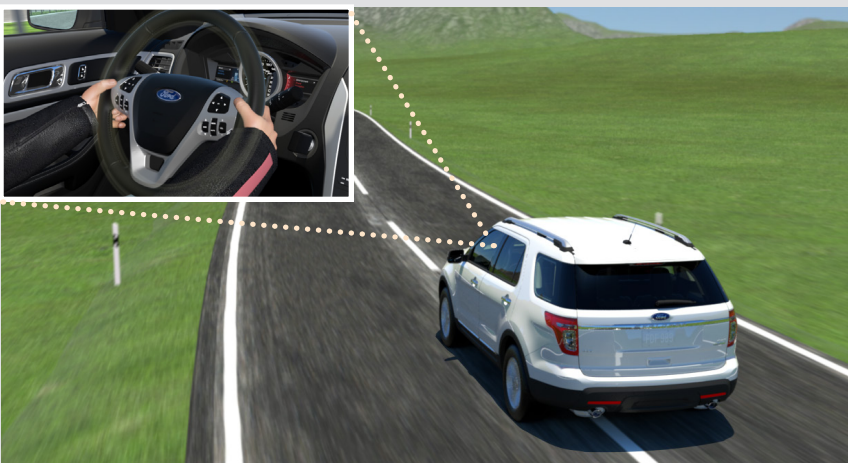
Selections can be customized so drivers can choose which features they want, where in the lane a warning is provided, and how intense they want the feedback from the steering wheel.

The sensitivity of the setting can be adjusted between normal and increased, which moves the warning zones in closer to the center of the lane. The intensity of the steering wheel vibrations can be adjusted as well between low, medium and high.



Lane Keeping System

When the system detects the vehicle drifting close to lane markings, the Lane Keeping Alert will notify drivers through a vibration in the steering wheel to correct their course. The Lane Keeping Aid takes this technology even further by providing steering torque to steer back toward the center of the lane.



Extra eye

A forward-facing camera, mounted at the vehicle centerline, detects lane markings. The camera module is integrated with the rearview mirror and communicates to the steering system.

