



DOOR CONTROL PANEL FOR VARIABLE SEATING POSITION

Until now, the door control panel has been positioned in front of the side armrest. But with autonomous driving, the requirements are changing here as well. If you move the seat far back in autonomous mode, the door control panel moves out of reach. That's why the engineers at automotive supplier Preh have developed an armrest that moves forward when the driver's seat is pushed back. This covers the front control panel and exposes a control panel in the rear.

The technical concept of this armrest module includes, on the one hand, the actuator technology that moves the support, including signal synchronization with the seat. After all, the armrest should only move when the seat is moved far back in autonomous driving mode. Second, there are the control panels. Here the switches are designed as closed sensory surfaces that thanks to haptic feel aids, make it easier to find the respective function without having to look away. In addition, an actuator ensures that each function selection is confirmed with tactile haptic feedback. Alternatively, passive haptic feedback can also be used. Preh deliberately does not work with sensors alone here. Instead, tangible feedback is given special importance so that these closed surfaces can be operated as easily as conventional buttons. All contours of the structured surface can thus be clearly felt and the pressing of each function is tangibly confirmed.