

Establishment of the Permission Framework for the Specified Automated Operation (SAO)

<Background>

Necessity to further promote automated driving, such as developing institutional arrangements for realizing driverless automated-driving transport services employing remote monitoring only in specified areas in around FY2022 (“Economic Measures to Overcome COVID-19 and Pioneer a New Era” decided by the Cabinet on November 19, 2021)

(1) Permission for SAO

- A person seeking to conduct a SAO (driverless automated driving equivalent to Level 4 in the SAE (Society of Automotive Engineers) Levels of Driving Automation) must obtain permission from a Prefectural Public Safety Commission (PPSC).
- A person seeking to obtain the permission must submit a SAO plan stating the implementation methods of the acts described in (2) and (3) below to the PPSC.
- When the PPSC intends to grant permission, it must hear the opinions of persons including the mayor of the municipality in which the route of the SAO is located.

(2) Rules to be observed by the person that has obtained the permission (the SAO implementer)

- The SAO must be implemented in accordance with the SAO plan.
- Remote monitoring equipment must be placed, and a person who conducts the remote monitoring (the SAO supervisor) must be allocated (unless the SAO supervisor is inside the vehicle for SAO)
- Education must be provided for the SAO supervisor, etc.

(3) Measures in cases that cannot be dealt with by the automated driving system

- The SAO supervisor, etc. must take measures such cases as where there is a need to follow police instructions on site or a case of a traffic accident.

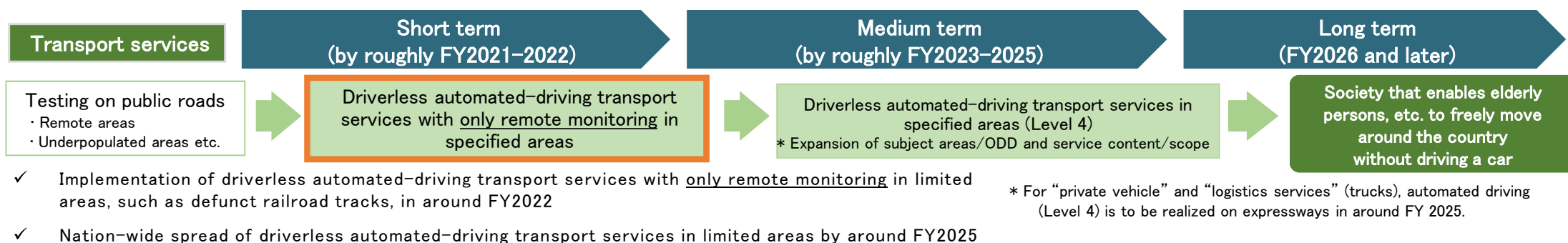
(4) Administrative disposition, etc.

- If a SAO implementer, etc. violates a law or regulation, the PPSC may take administrative dispositions including giving instructions and effect rescission of the permission.
- In the event a traffic accident, etc. occurs in specified automated operation, the chief of a police station may provisionally suspend the validity of the permission.

Government's target: Public-private ITS Initiative / Roadmaps 2020

(decided by the IT Strategic Headquarters on July 17, 2020)

Scenario for commercializing and realizing the services of automated driving relating to transport services



SAO Permission Framework

SAO implementer

Application (SAO plan)

Prefectural Public Safety Commission

Permission

Mayor of the municipality

(Understanding by local residents)

<Obligation of SAO implementer>

- Compliance with SAO Plan
- Education for SAO staff
- Indication on the vehicle that the SAO is running, etc.

Opinion hearing on item ⑤

* In addition, hearing the opinions of the Minister of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism, etc. regarding permission item ① and ②

Administrative disposition
in the case of violation of a law or regulations, etc.

Permission criteria(Summary)

- ① The vehicle must be capable of SAO.
- ② The SAO must be performed in compliance within the ODD(*).
- ③ Smooth and reliable implementation is expected for the measures which the SAO implementer or the SAO staff must implement under the Road Traffic Act.
- ④ The SAO conducted according to the SAO plan is not likely to significantly interfere with other traffic.
- ⑤ The SAO is for the purpose of transporting people or goods and is recognized as contributing to the convenience or welfare of local residents

Designation

SAO supervisor

Remote Monitoring Equipment

Remote monitoring

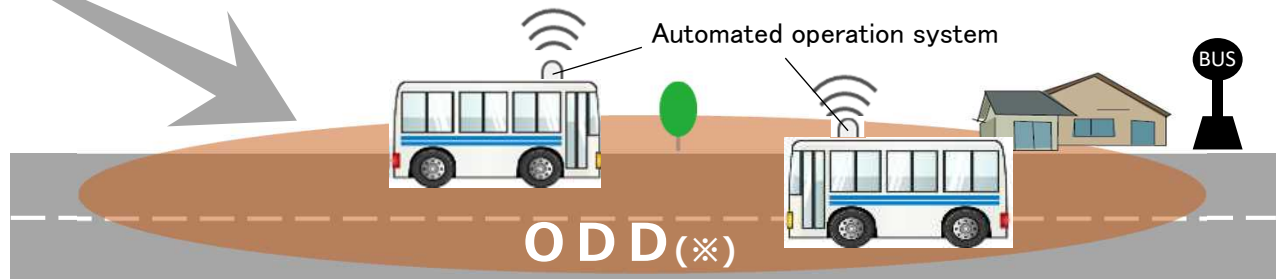
- A SAO supervisor may be placed in the SAO vehicle instead of the remote monitoring..

Automated operation system

ODD(※)

※ ODD: Operational Design Domain (driving environment conditions, conditions of use)

Specific conditions under which an automated driving system is designed to operate (the traveling route, the time of day, weather, etc.)



BUS