

Press release

## Bayanat and Vay Announce Partnership to Expand Teledriving Solutions in the Middle East, Africa and Asia Pacific

**The collaboration will combine Bayanat's AI-powered solutions and expertise in advanced mobility with Vay's cutting-edge teledriving technology.**

**Abu Dhabi, UAE, 26th September 2024**—[Bayanat](#) (ADX: BAYANAT), a leading provider of AI-powered geospatial solutions, and Vay, the provider of automotive-grade teledriving (remote driving) technology, signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to advance teledriving technology solutions with geospatial data and AI.

This partnership enables Bayanat to unlock and expand jointly with Vay the teledriving technology into the Middle East, Africa, and select Asia Pacific countries. Additionally, the partnership will see the launch of a joint R&D arm dedicated to the development and expansion of next generation, safe autonomous technology. The partnership will also leverage Bayanat's operational infrastructure, data and AI capabilities, and Vay's teledriving expertise to drive advancements in autonomous vehicles globally, and address the growing demand for advanced modes of mobility.

Bayanat's smart mobility solutions are powered by its AI-enabled platform, GIQ, which integrates data from space and ground assets to assist with decision-making, enhance situational awareness, and improve operational efficiency. Vay's technology allows professionally trained teledrivers to remotely drive vehicles to the customer's pick-up location. Once the car arrives, the user takes manual control and drives as in any regular vehicle. After the journey is complete, the user simply ends the rental in the app without worrying about searching for parking space, as a teledriver handles parking or drives the car to the next customer. This system offers a sustainable, door-to-door mobility service at half the cost of traditional ride-hailing. Bayanat's AI insights, informed by geospatial data, will improve the remote experience for Vay's trained teledrivers.

Vay is the first and still the only company in Europe to operate on public roads without a safety driver. In January 2024, it launched its commercial teledriving service in Las Vegas, positioning itself as a pioneer in teledriven cars. Committed to creating safer, more sustainable, and livable cities, Vay's teledriving technology optimizes the use of its electric fleet, potentially leading to fewer cars on the road.

**Hasan Al Hosani, Managing Director, Bayanat:** "Bayanat, soon to be Space42, remains committed to fostering key partnerships that advance

disruptive industries such as teledriving and advanced mobility. Our collaboration with Vay will allow us to tackle teledriving challenges and set the pace of innovation in the industry. By combining our AI-powered smart mobility solutions with Vay's cutting-edge teledriving technology, we aim to deliver advanced, scalable mobility solutions that enhance transportation efficiency and foster safer, more sustainable urban mobility experiences."

"We are excited to collaborate with Bayanat to develop what we believe is a crucial element of autonomous vehicles - specifically, 'remote-operated, assisted autonomy'," said **Thomas von der Ohe, Vay co-founder and CEO**. "Teledriving has a profound ability to increase cost-effectiveness for fleet operations. Coupled with Bayanat's AI-powered platform, we can further advance the implementation of teledriving beyond the current use cases and improve the overall experience for teledrivers, users, and partners".

This partnership is the latest in several strategic alliances Bayanat has fostered to apply its AI-powered geospatial capabilities and offerings to more use cases. In 2024, Bayanat was Anchor Partner at DRIFTx, an international platform for smart, autonomous and sustainable urban mobility solutions with the aim to advance Abu Dhabi's journey to become the global hub for smart and autonomous vehicle applications. At the event, Bayanat made several announcements, including its partnership with South Korean firm Autonomous a2z to pioneer cutting-edge autonomous fleet operations and advance sustainable smart mobility and transport systems.

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### **About Bayanat**

Bayanat, an ADX-listed public company with a majority shareholding by G42, provides comprehensive world-class AI-powered geospatial solutions to a growing number of sectors such as Government Services, Environment, Energy & Resources, Smart Cities, and Transportation. Its offering includes topographic, hydrographic, and aeronautical products and charts, as well as spatial data surveying, analysis, management, modeling, visualization, and cartography services. Bayanat's solutions harness vast amounts of premium and unique data from a range of sources, including Satellites, High Altitude Pseudo Satellites (HAPS), and Earth Observation powered by AI to drive geospatial intelligence (gIQ).

### **About Vay**

Vay entwickelt Technologie für das ferngesteuerte Fahren ("Telefahren") nach den Standards der Automobilindustrie und ebnet damit den Weg für nachhaltige und fahrerlose Mobilitätsdienste. Mit einem alternativen

Ansatz zum autonomen Fahren will Vay schrittweise autonome Funktionen in sein System einführen, die auf hochwertigen Telefahrdaten basieren.

Im Februar 2023 war Vay das erste (und ist immer noch das einzige) Unternehmen in Europa, das auf öffentlichen Straßen ohne eine Person im Fahrzeug fährt. Im Januar 2024 startete Vay seinen ersten kommerziellen Mobilitätsdienst in Las Vegas, USA. Telefahrer:innen bringen ein Elektroauto zu den Nutzer:innen und holen es nach der Fahrt wieder ab, so dass die zeitaufwändige Suche nach einem Parkplatz entfällt. Während die Nutzer:innen im Auto sitzen, fahren sie selbst. So entsteht der günstigste Tür-zu-Tür-Mobilitätsservice.

Vay wurde 2018 von Thomas von der Ohe, Fabrizio Scelsi und Bogdan Djukic in Berlin gegründet. Das Team mit mehr als 150 Mitarbeitenden vereint das Beste aus zwei Welten - Software- und Produkt-Erfahrung aus dem Silicon Valley und Automotive-Hardware und -Sicherheitstechnik aus Europa. Das Unternehmen hat Niederlassungen in Berlin und Hamburg sowie in Las Vegas, USA. Vay hat zuletzt 95 Millionen US-Dollar in einer Series-B-Finanzierungsrunde eingesammelt. Zu den Investor:innen gehören unter anderem Kinnevik, Coatue, Eurazeo, Atomico, La Famiglia und Creandum sowie prominente Business Angels wie der ehemalige Alphabet CFO Patrick Pichette, Peter Mertens, ehemaliges Vorstandsmitglied für Forschung & Entwicklung und Design. [www.vay.io](http://www.vay.io)

**Note**

*Subject to obtaining regulatory and other relevant approvals, Bayanat AI PLC is in the process of merging with Al Yah Satellite Communications Company PJSC (Yahsat). The proposed merger aims to create an AI-powered space technology champion in the MENA region with global reach. Bayanat and Yahsat will continue to operate independently until regulatory approvals are received and the merger is effective, which is expected to take place in H2 2024. Visit the merger microsite for more information: [www.asharedambition.com](http://www.asharedambition.com)*

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