

"Cyber security requires preparedness"

James J. Giszczak | Thursday, December 3, 2015

A 'door-open' warning as a vehicle cruises at highway speed is very worrisome. But if the alert doesn't match reality, a cyber hack could be the culprit.

"It's all about contextual information. So if you're driving at 70 mph (112 km/h) and you see a signal from the body computer that a door is open, that's probably a signal out-of-context. There's something going on there," said Bruce Coventry, Chairman of TowerSec, a supplier of cyber security software for vehicles with research and development headquarters in Tel Aviv, Israel.

A vehicle's tire pressure monitoring, onboard diagnostics, anti-theft, and other vehicle systems operating via an electronic control unit with wireless capability provide possible entry points for hackers.

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