

Christoph Mertz



In 1998 Christoph Mertz received his PhD in physics from Arizona State University. After continuing his nuclear physics research for another year, he joined the Carnegie Mellon University (CMU) Robotics Institute as research staff. There he developed surround sensing and object detection systems for intelligent vehicles and search and rescue robots. He has also been working on a system that is based on vehicle mounted smartphones and can determine road conditions as well as inventory and assess road infrastructure. This technology was spun out of CMU in 2016, Dr. Mertz became co-founder and chief scientist of the startup RoadBotics while remaining principal project scientist at CMU. The startup won several competitions, among them first runner-up in the 2017 Le Monde International Smart Cities Competition and ASCE Innovation Contest Overall Winner, 2018. His current research focus is on how edge computing can be used to update HD maps, monitor infrastructure, detect landslides, and count traffic on a scale as large as a whole city.