## Transurban Motorcycle Technology Evaluation Challenge (MotoTEC)





## Motivation

- Are there market-ready or near-market-ready technologies that could improve, or even save the lives of motorcyclists?
- What if the benefits of these technologies aren't realized because of lack of supporting tests and evaluations?

## Pains & Barriers

- Motorcycle riders have a minority role on the road and in discussions around advanced technology
  - Often overlooked by roadway planners, technology developers and other drivers
  - Example: Are work zones designed with motorcycle riders in mind?
  - Are V2V V2I solutions being applied for motorcycles?
- Motorcycle technology startups/vendors rarely have the funding available for a robust design of rider-centric technologies
  - Difficult to develop due to rider constraints (vigilance requirements, vehicle design)
  - Low funding available for successful marketing efforts
  - Hard to get attention of motorcycle manufacturers and suppliers



### Transurban MotoTEC

- Transurban Motorcycle Technology Evaluation Challenge (MotoTEC)
- Through a gracious donation by Transurban, the Virginia Tech Transportation Institute (VTTI) will deploy MotoTEC in 2018
  - This program will fund real-world evaluations of promising rider-centric safety and usability solutions
  - VTTI will manage these evaluations as an independent evaluator
- MotoTEC Goal: Leading program in the testing and evaluation of promising motorcycle technologies towards faster implementation on roadways and potential benefits realized.



# Candidate A Finalist A | Finalist B **Pitch Competition** WINNFR

# Approach

- Steering Committee formed from motorcycle industry stakeholders
  - Motorcycle Manufacturers
  - Tier 1 Suppliers
  - Rider Representatives
  - Startup Incubators/Accelerators
  - Researchers
  - Roadway Builders
- Request for Proposals solicitation directed at vendors to have their technology evaluated
  - Brief three-page proposal
  - Steering committee down-selects to group of finalists invited to in-person pitch (if necessary)
  - Technology selected



### Approach cont..

- VTTI customizes an evaluation plan
  - Leveraging one or more of the following:
    - Real world riding
    - Transurban express lane(s)
    - Virginia Connected Corridor
    - Virginia Automated Corridor
    - Virginia Smart Roads
      - Highway
      - Surface Street
      - Rural Road
- Pending the maturity and complexity of the technology selected, it is anticipated that each evaluation may take 12-15 months to complete



## Value Propositions

- Steering Committee
  - Insight into novel motorcycle technologies available to the industry
  - Transdisciplinary discussions about incorporating motorcycle riders into the future of transportation
- Vendors
  - No-cost independent evaluation of their technology
  - Free press and brand awareness leveraging steering committee network
- Riders
  - Participation in technology selections
  - Experience with advanced technology
  - Involvement in shaping rider safety and experience discussion



#### **Questions?**

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