



# SAVED BY THE VEST

[ Text: Peter Mathsson. Photo: Scania Illustration: Kjell Thorsson ]

What if you have hurt yourself when climbing out of the cab and are unable to move? No worries – Scania’s new, connected safety vest can trigger help automatically.

**T**he Scania C-me vest is one of the latest pieces of ingenious technology made possible by the rapid growth of connectivity and digitalisation in the transport business.

The connected safety vest features automatic lighting when the driver exits cab. And if the driver should fall while outside the truck

and become inactive, the Scania C-me’s sensor will trigger a call for help.

“We see that the vest can enhance safety not only for truck drivers but also in many other vulnerable occupations as well,” says Jonas Svanholm, Director, X-Lab, Scania Connected Services and Solutions.

At present, final verification tests are being performed before the vest will be available at

Scania dealers, which is planned for mid-2019. Well ahead of the commercial launch of Scania’s connected driver vest, it already received the Consumer Technology Association’s Innovation Award.

The patented vest, developed on behalf of Scania by Swedish start-ups Light Flex and Imagimob, addresses a growing concern about hazardous work in the vicinity of the truck.

## Driving trucks can be a risky business

Professional driving is a highly hazardous activity, involving risks far higher than those encountered in virtually any other occupation or most other activities of daily life. As noted in an EU report, drivers have a lot of additional tasks to perform such as loading and unloading of vehicles, coupling and uncoupling trailers,

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checking and making sure that cargo is appropriately secured, checking and maintaining their vehicles before starting their next journey. All these activities can pose risks to drivers.

In Europe, transport and storage constitute the third most common work activity in fatal accidents. A Danish study has confirmed that falls from heights causing fractures among truck drivers are commonplace. Analyses show that major triggering factors for falls from heights on and around the truck are stepping off the edge at height, wrong footing and loss of balance.

## Automatically lit with flashing lights

The sensor fitted in the C-me collar automatically detects when the driver exits the cab and the vest is automatically lit, optionally with flashing or steady lights. The sensor also detects if the driver is inactive after a rapid involuntary movement such as a fall. This triggers the connected app to allow the driver to send a text alert to a pre-set emergency number while also relaying the GPS position.

The Android app, named Sense, can also display user data such as battery status, the number of times the cab has been entered and exited, and other relevant information. With the mobile connecting vest software can be updated over the air.

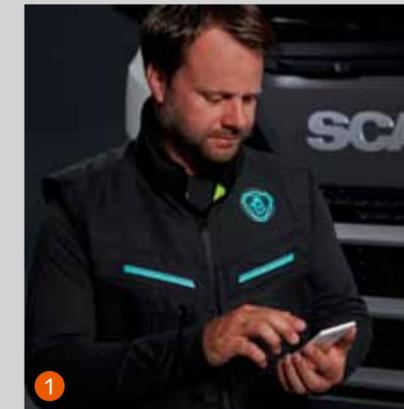
## Innovative connected wearable

The vest is reversible with one hi-vis lit side while the other is a more neutral grey to wear when not working in or around the truck. Even without these lighting features, it meets all the set European legal Class 2 requirements for hi vis protective clothing.

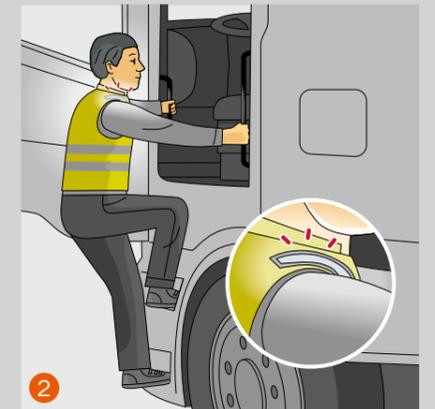
The developers have not overlooked any aspect in making this an innovative connected wearable, including the fact that the vest is washable when the electronics in the collar are removed. ●

## How it works

Scania C-me vest is a connected wearable technology with built-in automatic safety features. It uses Bluetooth to communicate with the driver’s mobile phone.



The functionality is managed by an app. Multiple settings for lighting, outside conditions and the emergency number can be adjusted according to the driver’s individual preferences.



The sensor fitted in the C-me collar automatically detects when the driver exits the cab and the vest is automatically lit, optionally with flashing or steady lights.



If the driver falls while outside the truck and becomes inactive, the Scania C-me’s sensor will trigger a call for help, while also relaying the GPS position. Using the connected app the driver can also actively send a text alert to a pre-set emergency number.



If the driver is exposed to a dangerous situation and the phone is inside the cab, the driver can still send an emergency alert by pressing five times on the vest.