

The art of RESTO-MODDING

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The beautiful art of resto-modding is when classic cars are restored with modern parts and technology working together in a symphony just like Lewis Hamilton and his Mercedes F1 car. The word "restomod" is a combination of the words 'restoration' and 'modified'.

Resto-mods began back in the 1980s and it all started with classic muscle cars that became too slow at one point for people, enthusiasts began integrating new engines, tuning and mods, improving



factory production cars to be faster, better and more efficient. These days, the world of classic cars is made of an unimaginable number of makes and models, thousands of upgrades and unlimited options.

Even in the modern-day, there are electric resto-mods; yes it's a sacrilege to some Petrolheads and ultimate automotive luxury for some. The Charge 'Eleanor' Ford Mustang is the best example of an electric resto-mod. The Charge Ford Mustang has four motors (for a total of 536bhp and 885lb-ft of torque), four-wheel drive, a 64kWh battery capacity for a range of 200 miles, 0-60mph under 4 sec and 50kW DC charging. It shows the spirit of a Mustang even though it's full of new technology and proves how capable classic cars can be made with modern technology.

Not only do resto-mods bring classic cars up to date in the 21st century with modern-day technology, safety features and overhauled performance, but it also makes what was once a classic, much easier and more reliable to drive. It is all the beautiful aesthetics of a



classic car with all the luxuries of a modern vehicle, a perfect mix of both worlds. Restomodders have been turning heads in the car scenery for quite a while now, showing off the perfect harmony and the beautiful art of what a classic car can be with a modern touch.

One thing that Petrolheads can't get enough of is the different looks and history of the classic cars which makes them stand out in the modern era. The classic cars' spirits being alive to this day have been respected by the Petrolheads from both the old times and newer eras. Turning a legacy machine into an amazing daily driver personalised to the owners' satisfaction is often fascinating to classic car enthusiasts.

One of the most popular cars to get a modern treatment is the legendary Lancia Delta Integrale, which won a lot of the main events in the notorious Group B rally race which was banned in 1986 and became world champion in 1987. It won 6 world championships, far more than any other car. This is a car that not everyone lived to see and people want to see in the modern world how capable it can be creating the desire in Petrolheads hearts to drive it one day or even watch someone shred it up on the streets.

Then one day Automobili Amos, founded by driver Eugenio Amos, took one of the 1980's Lancia Integrale and brought it into the 21st century. They created the ultimate Delta Integrale resto-mod, where the Automobili Amos Lancia Delta Futurista was born. This resto-mod weighs 1300kg thanks to the crazy amount of Carbon Fiber that was used and has over 330 horsepower from a turbocharged 4-cylinder engine, Brembo brakes, a 5-speed manual transmission, upgraded suspension now with a double-wishbone, a new cooling system and some extra nice touches such as the high beam button on



the steering is labelled "LEVATI" which translates to "move from my way". Automobili Amos' team created 21 of them with a whopping price tag of \$350,000.

Resto-modding can be very expensive due to the restoration of the rare classic cars and the ridiculous rarity of parts. The original parts are hard to come by so companies have to improvise by repurposing old parts to add to the car. Another major factor that causes this price hike is the amount of rust on a classic vehicle which requires a lot of labour-intensive work. Though a restomodded project won't hold the same value as a restored classic vehicle, the performance improvement may compensate for the deficit in value, at least for some people. The popularity of a classic car and the high demand and desirability for it increase the value by an unimaginable amount.

One of the best examples would be the Singer 911 DLS which fetched a hefty price tag of \$1.8 million. This Porsche restomod was developed by the F1 Williams team, making a nick under 500hp and the exhaust sounds like a group of an orchestra making the most euphonious music, where the car weighs just about 1000kg. The Singer DLS is on par with Koenigsegg when it comes to technical engineering, Pagani in terms of art and 458 Speciale regarding the driving experience.

There are countless amazing restomodders across the world and many new ones that are being built every day; each one of them having its own special story. There are many legendary Restomodders that every Petrolhead appreciates like the Legacy Overland Toyota Land Cruiser, Twisted Landrover Defender, AC Cobra, Cyan Racing's Volvo P1800, RWB's electric MGB, Totem Automobili's electric Alfa Romeo Giulia GT, RUF RCT and many more innumerable cars. These cars will always find a way to steal petrolheads' hearts.

When it comes down to it, completing a restomod will become a passion project which takes time and effort to achieve. However, something is gratifying about combining a piece of automotive history with modern-day innovations. At the end of the day, there will be a unique vehicle. It's all about the dream cars, emotional bond, combining exclusivity, freedom, and adrenaline. That is the beauty and art of resto-modding and ultimately driving, which will forever continue to change lives.

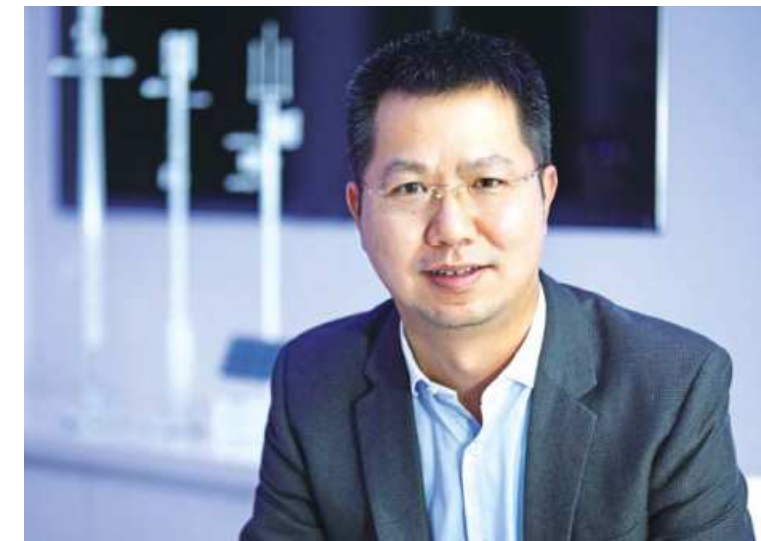
5G: Paving the way for a digitally enabled society

INTERVIEWED BY SHAHRIAR RAHMAN

5G is probably one of the most anticipated leap-forwards that the country has been waiting for many years now. Putting an end to all the speculation, on December 12, Teletalk is officially launching 5G network services on a trial basis in Bangladesh, and Huawei as the technology partner has played a key role in making it all happen. To debug the hype around 5G, we sat to have a conversation with Kevin Xu, Chief Technology Officer of Huawei Bangladesh. Here's the expert of the discussion that we had:

What is 5G and how do you think 5G will affect our daily lives?

The 5th generation wireless network technology 5G, compared to 4G, can provide much higher speed, better connectivity and lower latency which opens so many doors of possibilities including massive machine-type communications, responsiveness and fast data transfer over 1GBPS. This is beneficial for individuals, families and companies. In addition to speed, Individuals will have AR/



VR which will bring a new experience in entertainment, gaming etc. Families will have better connectivity with ICT devices. Fixed Wireless Access will take an important role to bring higher speed omitting the hassle of wires. For companies, 5G means industries like ports, manufacturers and traffic can utilise smart technology. As we know, 4G changed lives, but 5G will change society.

5G will be launched in Bangladesh on 12 December. What are your thoughts regarding that?

There are about 700 active telecom operators worldwide, among which about 180 have already launched 5G services. Huawei has been working with mobile operators in Bangladesh for more than twenty years. We cherish the transformation of 3G to 4G in Bangladesh, and now we enter the 5G era. We are happy to cooperate with Teletalk in launching 5G in Bangladesh. Bangladesh will be counted as one of the first few countries which are launching 5G.

Why is the deployment of 5G a big deal in Bangladesh? Which industries will benefit the most from 5G?

As we know, carbon emission has been a hot topic for a long time. ICT holds around 1.4% of the total carbon footprint. And since ICT is fundamental to the digital economy of Bangladesh, 5G can address the challenge of improving the ICT sector as a whole. With the introduction of 5G, we can decrease carbon footprints by making remote jobs much easier to do.

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5G can support industries in reducing carbon emissions, like banking, where the improved connectivity can be integrated into smart banking. People won't need to go to the banks as they will have access to much faster and safer banking from home. Having better internet at home means more emphasis on working from home. Motor vehicles will be used less, which will amount to a decrease in carbon emissions and a smaller footprint. With 5G technology, we can also optimise the traffic light control system to transmit fast and accurate information to the control centre, thus improving traffic conditions on major roads. Traffic has always been a big issue in Dhaka and 5G will help tackle that problem as well.

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Furthermore, 5G will enable smart ports, where the machines can be controlled via AI. We already have Chinese smart ports that are completely controlled by machines. There, people only stay in the offices to run the machines, which are always working with 100% accuracy. 5G will enable Bangladesh to replicate a similar efficient manufacturing system. Fast and reliable wireless connections will also improve sectors such as healthcare and general public services and will make worldwide communication even smoother. Overall, we think 5G has the power to reform society in a very positive manner.

How can telecom brands deploy 5G with their current infrastructure?

3G or 4G, we needed specific radio transmitters in mobile phones, which can provide a satisfactory output but not to the level of 5G. 5G has increased speed and higher bandwidth, so the transmission fibre bandwidth capacity needs to be expanded. There is also a requirement for more spectrum. An addition of 2.6 or 3.5 GHz to existing frequencies will be very fitting for the next steps. Huawei has been supplying almost 60% of the total 5G

components worldwide and soon enough Bangladesh will be capable of running high-speed 5G as well. With time Bangladesh can adapt the existing cases and discover new localized applications. But in between, the industry also needs to work for a better 4G experience.

There are several network infrastructure providers right now with 5G solutions. What gives Huawei an edge compared to other competitors?

As we can see, many companies have launched their 5G networks in 2020. But our story was started long ago. You know, Huawei invests more than 10% of its revenue in research and innovation. We have been researching this technology since 2009 and until 2013, we spent nearly \$600 million on 5G research alone. And Huawei started developing 5G equipment in 2012. More than 60% of 5G patents are currently owned by Huawei.

We continue to invest in creative technologies to make our products more efficient and more green in terms of power-saving. A recent analysis stated that Huawei is at least two years ahead of other 5G vendors.

Huawei wants to work with operators to find out how we can solve your problems and improve the efficiency of a digital society. Societal improvement will take time, so we need to launch 5G as soon as possible. We can borrow and learn from other countries, but we still need time to customize them. Many operators might want to launch 5G services as soon as possible, but not to the scale of our project.

As we have learned, to use 5G we need 5G-enabled devices. Unfortunately, the number of compatible devices is still quite low in Bangladesh. Do you think this is a red flag for 5G adoption in the country?

I don't think that is a problem. When 4G was introduced, only high-end phones supported the technology. 4G only began to spread when mid and low range phones started to adopt it, quickly becoming an industry standard. As 5G technology has just been introduced to the world, we are still working on small scale coverage such as metropolitan cities. Presently, higher-end phones have been adopting the technology. The good part is 5G devices are already in the Market and even some companies have already launched 5G handsets in the Bangladesh market. Soon, when 5G infrastructure will be available enough, handheld device companies will start to implement 5G support on affordable phones.

China's life changed for the better after the launch of 4G. The Chinese market was booming, and the same happened in Bangladesh. Now, with the launch of 5G, once companies start manufacturing low-end smartphones that enable 5G connectivity, the industry will change once again. With 5G, every sector, especially ICT, will contribute to making a smarter and greener society. 5G will help Bangladesh's economy prosper as well.

Transcribed by Arfin Kazi

