

### Jeremy Clarkson mocks Scottish electric car project

by John Jeffay

- 1 Scottish university researchers are not amused after Jeremy Clarkson mocked their electric 'airport trolley' cars.
- 2 The tiny Esprit (Easily diStributed Personal Rapid Transit) vehicles are designed for short city-centre hops and are to be tested in Glasgow, Lyon and L'Hospitalet de Llobregat near Barcelona. Like shopping trolleys, they can travel linked together in trains of up to eight.
- 3 In an episode of Grand Tour on Amazon Prime, Jeremy Clarkson compared the lightweight 30mph vehicles to the misshapen monster from the B-movie horror film *The Human Centipede* and said: "The future is going to be very unpleasant."
- 4 A spokesman for the university said: "We're happy to help improve Jeremy Clarkson's understanding of this innovative solution to city centre congestion. One of the main strengths of the concept is that the stacking function enables the redistribution of empty vehicles, overcoming the main weakness of one-way car sharing. As Esprit is specifically designed for the first or last mile of a journey, you'll still be able to use your own car to get close to your destination. With car-sharing schemes expanding throughout Europe, Esprit will create a system that will help reduce congestion and noise and air pollution, while providing greater energy efficiency."



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