PONY AI Inc. Drives Commercialization at Scale with Lower-Cost Robotaxis and New L4 Light Truck

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- At Auto China 2026, Pony.ai outlined new steps to advance Robotaxi commercialization through lower-cost Gen-7 vehicles and an upgraded world model to improve “Virtual Driver” training efficiency.
- By 2027, the total vehicle cost of Pony.ai’s Robotaxi in the China market, including the base vehicle and ADK, is expected to fall below RMB 230,000.
- Pony.ai also unveiled the world’s first 100% automotive-grade, fully redundant L4 autonomous light-duty truck, developed with CATL for urban logistics.

BEIJING, China, April 24, 2026 — Pony AI Inc. (“Pony.ai” or the “Company”) (NASDAQ: PONY; HKEX: 2026), a global leader in achieving large-scale mass production and commercialization of autonomous driving technology, today presented its latest autonomous driving and AI developments at the 2026 Beijing International Automotive Exhibition (“Auto China 2026”).

Key highlights include progress in lowering the cost of Pony.ai's seventh-generation (“Gen-7”) Robotaxis, with total vehicle cost in the China market, including both the autonomous driving kits (“ADK”) and the base vehicle, expected to fall below RMB 230,000 by 2027. The company also pointed to continued Robotaxi fleet expansion, a broader L4 product lineup with a new autonomous light-duty truck, and PonyWorld 2.0, its upgraded proprietary world model, as key drivers of continued deployment at scale.

Gen-7 Robotaxi: Targets Sub-RMB 230,000 Total Vehicle Cost by 2027

“Over the past decade, we have remained focused on turning autonomous driving from a concept into real-world infrastructure,” said Dr. James Peng, Founder and Chief Executive Officer of Pony.ai. “Today, the question is no longer whether Robotaxi can work. The focus is how to scale it safely, efficiently and at the right cost.”

After introducing its Gen-7 Robotaxi lineup last year, Pony.ai has realized a 70% reduction in bill-of-materials (“BOM”) cost for its Gen-7 ADK, compared to the previous generation. With accelerated scaling-up of Robotaxi fleet, Pony.ai now expects its Robotaxi platform to bring its total vehicle cost, including the base vehicle and the ADK, down to RMB 230,000 or lower by 2027. The latest cost reductions are expected to support mass production and further advance Pony.ai’s “dual-engine” growth strategy across both China and overseas markets.

Pony.ai’s accelerating commercialization momentum is also reflected in its collaboration with Toyota. The Gen-7 bZ4X Robotaxi, jointly developed by Pony.ai and Toyota, has officially received an on-road testing permit in Guangzhou. As production ramps up, the two companies plan to deploy 1,000 bZ4X Robotaxis this year across major tier-one cities in China.

New L4 Light Truck: Extends Pony.ai’s Autonomous Logistics Portfolio

Pony.ai unveiled an L4 electric light-duty truck, the world’s first automotive-grade, fully redundant light truck purpose-built for L4 autonomous driving. It was co-developed with Contemporary Amperex Technology (“CATL”) and built on CATL’s Kunshi Chassis Platform. The launch extends Pony.ai’s L4 logistics footprint from long-haul freight into urban distribution, complementing its autonomous logistics lineup. The new vehicle is designed to reduce per-kilometer operating costs by 40-50% compared with human-driven transport, while delivering 2.6 times the cargo volume of low-speed autonomous delivery vehicles.

The new L4 light-duty truck shares the same technology stack as Pony.ai’s Gen-7 Robotaxis and is intended for deployment in the same operating regions, enabling both platforms to leverage the same operational backbone, including energy replenishment, ground support, service centers and remote assistance. This cross-business reuse of infrastructure and resources is expected to strengthen economies of scale, improve the marginal economics of large-scale deployment, and drive further cost reduction and efficiency gains across both urban logistics and mobility services.

PonyWorld 2.0: Supports a More Efficient Path to Scaled L4 Deployment

At Auto China 2026, Pony.ai also highlighted PonyWorld 2.0, the self-improving upgrade to its proprietary world model. Since 2020, Pony.ai has developed PonyWorld not as a conventional simulation tool, but as a full reinforcement-learning system spanning cloud-side training and onboard deployment. As its fully driverless fleet has scaled, improving autonomous driving performance has increasingly depended on improving the world model itself — particularly its ability to represent real-world dynamics and traffic interactions with sufficient accuracy and realism.

The key advance in PonyWorld 2.0 is its ability to diagnose where performance remains weak, guide more targeted data collection, and support more efficient model training. This creates a stronger closed-loop data flywheel: larger-scale driverless operations generate more valuable real-world data, which improves the world model, strengthens the onboard system, and in turn

supports broader deployment.

While continuing to advance its AI capabilities, Pony.ai has emphasized that safety remains the foundation of autonomous driving commercialization. Dr. Tiancheng Lou, Founder and Chief Technology Officer of Pony.ai, said, “Fail-operational capability across the entire system should become a universal industry standard for Level 4 autonomous driving.” A fail-operational system helps ensure that even in the event of an unexpected hardware or software failure, the vehicle can maintain core driving functions through comprehensive redundancy and execute a safe pull-over maneuver, supporting safer large-scale driverless operations.

About Pony AI Inc.

Pony AI Inc. (NASDAQ: PONY; HKEX: 2026), founded in 2016, is a global leader in achieving large-scale mass production and commercialization of autonomous driving technology. Pony.ai is committed to delivering safe, advanced, and reliable autonomous driving technology and solutions. At the heart of Pony.ai’s strategy is its proprietary world model PonyWorld and its Virtual Driver technology. Together, they power the development and scaling of its Robotaxi services, Robotruck services, and licensing and applications businesses. With operations spanning China, Europe, East Asia, the Middle East, and beyond, Pony.ai stands among a select few companies globally to achieve fully driverless commercial operations. Pony.ai has forged deep and extensive partnerships across the autonomous driving value chain, enabling it to accelerate the commercialization of autonomous driving in line with its ultimate vision: “Autonomous Mobility Everywhere.” For more information, please visit: https://ir.pony.ai.

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This press release contains statements that may constitute “forward-looking” statements pursuant to the “safe harbor” provisions of the U.S. Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995. These forward-looking statements can be identified by terminology such as “will,” “expects,” “anticipates,” “aims,” “future,” “intends,” “plans,” “believes,” “estimates,” “likely to,” and similar statements. Statements that are not historical facts, including statements about Pony.ai’s beliefs, plans, and expectations, are forward-looking statements. Forward-looking statements involve inherent risks and uncertainties. Further information regarding these and other risks is included in Pony.ai’s filings with the SEC and the Hong Kong Stock Exchange. All information provided in this press release is as of the date of this press release, and Pony.ai does not undertake any obligation to update any forward-looking statement, except as required under applicable law.

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