NTU researchers invent software to identify sleepy motorists

By Liu Bei | Posted: 06 April 2012 2014 hrs

SINGAPORE: Researchers at Nanyang Technological University (NTU) have come up with a software that can detect if a motorist is sleepy by the speed at which he blinks his eyes.

A camera zooms in on a motorist's eyes to capture his speed of blinking.

If the motorist's blinking rate slows down, or if his eyes are closed for a longer than usual period, the software will alert the driver to his fatigue and his unsuitability to drive.

This system was developed based on studies that show that the speed of one's blinking is related to the degree of wakefulness.

For the software's database, researchers had gathered data from over 2,000 people, which now has an accuracy of 97 per cent in detecting if people have their eyes opened or closed.

The researchers hope the software can be used to help reduce the number of road traffic accidents in Singapore.

- CNA/ck