

Straightline

Track and Control Your Car Via the Web

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A new company named Inilex has developed technology that lets you know what your car is doing and provides the ability to control it, all from the web.

For a number of years monitoring and control technology has been creeping into OEM and aftermarket vehicle offerings. [LoJack](#) pioneered stolen vehicle tracking. [OnStar](#) combined GPS location capabilities with remote control and human intelligence so you could unlock your car with a phone call or get help when you've had an accident. There are even data logging devices such as [CarChip](#) or [RoadSafety's RS-1000](#) that hook into your vehicle's on-board diagnostics port to tell you if your teenager has been driving too fast. A new product from Arizona-based [Inilex](#) bundles similar remote location, control and alert capabilities into a customizable service that you can manage from their website.

Looking first at how the vehicle can be controlled, there are basic-but-useful capabilities to start, lock, unlock and flash the lights/sound the horn of the vehicle remotely. Users can access these functions through the Inilex website (screenshot below), through an internet-connected PDA or by calling a 1-800 number from their cellphone.

The screenshot shows the Inilex website interface. At the top left is the INILEX logo. To its right is a 'Select Vehicle' dropdown menu currently showing 'Marks Vehicle'. Further right are icons for a mobile phone, a globe, and a person with a plus sign, followed by a 'Sign Out' link. Below this is a navigation bar with buttons for 'Control', 'Mapping', 'Account', 'Notifications', 'Event List', and 'Support'. The main content area is titled 'Vehicle Control Options' and contains a list of controls, each with an icon and a button:

| Control Option | Button |
|--------------------------------|--|
| Request to start vehicle | Start |
| Request to Lock vehicle | Lock |
| Request to Unlock vehicle | Unlock |
| Request to sound vehicle alarm | Alarm |
| Request to Locate vehicle | Locate |
| Set vehicle Speed Notification | Speed 0 MPH Turn Off off |
| Set Ignition Disable | Set |
| Set Motion Notification | Begin Stop Turn Off Begin: Stop: off off |
| Set Vacation mode | Set Turn Off |
| Car-Jacking Alarm | Alarm Turn Off off |

Beyond remote control, Inilex uses GPS and wireless data transmission to track your vehicle's location on a map and receive email or text message alerts when your vehicle strays outside of a user-defined area or trips other user-definable triggers. The Inilex website also keeps a running history of events for later review.

Recently unveiled at the DEMO 2007 technology conference, the Inilex offering combines some interesting features with a self-service capability that could be very appealing to parents of teenagers or anyone who likes to stay in close contact with their vehicle. Services such as LoJack and OnStar aren't geared for "casual" monitoring of teen drivers and data logger chips only provide downloads when you physically transfer data from the car using a memory chip or computer cable. The Inilex product is a couple of small boxes and cables that appear to be suitable for under dash or other out-of-sight mounting locations.

A physical product photo is available at [BusinessWeek](#) and a video interview with Inilex can be found at [CNET's Webware](#). Inilex also has a [demo](#) on their own website.