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Sommario/riassunto	This thesis contributes to the development of inter-vehicle communications with the goal of enhancing vehicular active safety. The wireless technology IEEE 802.11p is analyzed with an extended network simulator. As a result, challenges and design criteria for vehicular communication systems are defined. Finally, strategies for channel congestion avoidance and information dissemination are proposed, constituting a robust design to cope with unreliable and saturated wireless channel conditions.