



## China's Alibaba to open a “smart” gas station next year

**Online retailing powerhouse Alibaba plans to build “smart” gas stations after the success of its convenience stores.**

Alibaba will build an unstaffed gas station in Hangzhou by the end of the month where a “robotic arm” will fuel vehicles, reports Caixin Global.

The station will include a convenience store with no employees which allows customers to enter by scanning a QR code at the door, select their products and automatically pay at the checkout. This is a model that has already been tested by Alibaba this summer.

In Alibaba's gas station, set for 2018, a system will automatically identify information about the driver and their car such as identity of the driver, car model and preferred fuel product.