

Pfronstetten-Aichelau, January 25, 2024

PARAVAN Heidelberg branch

There's no such thing as impossible - Innovative solutions for people with disabilities

- » 360-degree approach also at the Heidelberg branch, support from the first consultation to vehicle customization
- » PARAVAN driving school with practical training and technical assessment

Innovative mobility solutions from the PARAVAN brand are not only available in Pfronstetten Aichelau in Swabia, but have also been available in Heidelberg for 17 years. The branch was established in 2006, first as a driving school and later as a contact point with a driving school, mobility advice, wheelchair and vehicle service as well as an affiliated production facility. Only the basic vehicle conversions come directly from the Aichelau mobility park and are individually equipped and adapted in Heidelberg.



Founded in 2006, the branch was based in a small hall on Bonhoefferstraße in Heidelberg until it moved to the Aktiv-Reha-Zentrum Am Taubenfeld in 2013. 14 employees currently work at the Heidelberg branch, photo PARAVAN

Driving instructor Carsten Seidler has been active with training for persons with disabilities for PARAVAN since 2005. The PARAVAN branch and driving school in Heidelberg was founded in 2006. The small team initially worked in a hall in Bonhoeffer Straße, but the workshop quickly outgrew its space requirements. In 2013, the location then moved to the Aktiv-Reha-Center Am Taubenfeld, next door to a medical supply store. 14 employees look after customers here, from the initial consultation to the driving school, wheelchair service and sales, through to complete car conversions.

The basic vehicle conversions come from the head office in Aichelau. Otherwise, customers receive comprehensive support in Heidelberg - from the initial contact to delivery. Whether new adaptations, maintenance or inspections, everything is offered directly at the site. "Our branch in Heidelberg is the little sister of the mobility park in Pfronstetten-Aichelau," says Roland Arnold, Managing Director of PARAVAN GmbH. "The much more central location, the proximity to Heidelberg University Hospital, but also to competitors and the good transport links motivated us to take this step back then."

PRESS RELEASE

It all started with a small team in a hall in Bonhoefferstraße, which quickly grew - including the workshop, wheelchair construction and sales.

"We actually do everything here, apart from bodywork for basic conversions," says Dietmar Bendinger, head of the branch and one of the first employees in Heidelberg. The consulting options are similar, and strength measurements can also be carried out at the branch in order to find the optimum mobility solution for the customer. The head of the Heidelberg driving school, Carsten Seidler, who ran the PARAVAN driving school before the branch was founded in Heidelberg, is responsible for this. Once the order has been placed, components and systems are configured and sent to the Heidelberg team. Between 80 and 90 vehicles, ranging from simple retrofits to highly complex Space Drive conversions, leave the hall in Heidelberg every year.

In addition, there are around 25 learner drivers and 70 TÜV inspections. The spectrum ranges from practical driving training to the technical assessment of those returning to driving after an illness or accident and driving tests. As in the Aichelau mobility park, a flexibly adaptable vehicle with a space drive system, various input devices and other driving and steering aids is available. The learner driver can get into the car via a ramp.

"It's very special for my employees and me to work in a team here in Heidelberg and help people regain their independent mobility and simply participate in social life," says Bendinger. "The greatest motivation for everyone is to find individual solutions so that people can manage their everyday lives independently again, just like at the Aichelau Mobility Park."



Founded in 2006, the branch was based in a small hall on Bonhoefferstraße in Heidelberg until it moved to the Aktiv-Reha-Zentrum Am Taubenfeld in 2013. 14 employees currently work at the Heidelberg branch and offer customers the complete portfolio from initial consultation to driving school, vehicle and wheelchair adaptation and delivery. Photo: PARAVAN



The search for the optimum solution for the customer is also the focus at the Heidelberg workshop. Here, workshop manager Rainer Brunner (left) in conversation with branch manager Dietmar Bendinger (right). Photo: Paravan

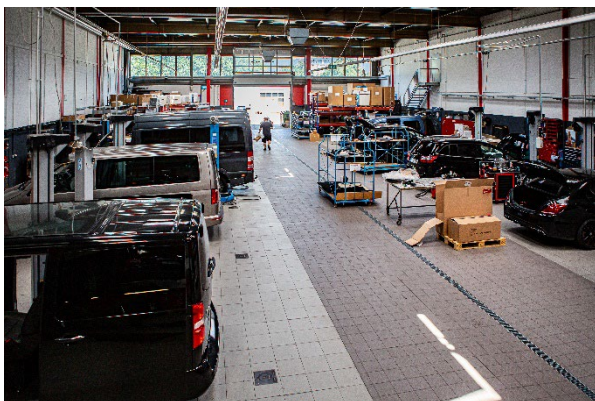
PRESS RELEASE



Carsten Seidler is a pioneer for PARAVAN Handicap Mobility in Heidelberg. The driving instructor has been active in handicap training in the Heidelberg area since 2005, before founding the Heidelberg branch and driving school a year later. Photo: PARAVAN



Reinhard Runge is one of the mobility consultants in Heidelberg. He looks after customers from the initial consultation through to vehicle customization. Photo: PARAVAN



The production hall in Heidelberg is well filled. After the basic construction, the customer vehicles arrive at the branch and are then individually assembled for the customer in Heidelberg. Photo: PARAVAN



The wheelchair workshop for minor adjustments and servicing is located right next to the production facility. Photo: PARAVAN

PRESS RELEASE

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About the Paravan GmbH:

PARAVAN GmbH is the global market leader for highly customized vehicle solutions for the disabled. Around 180 employees at the Pfronstetten Aichelau site and the Heidelberg branch develop and produce individually adapted car conversions, power wheelchairs and even specialized driver training. PARAVAN takes a holistic approach with its "one-stop shop" concept. The technological highlight is Space Drive, an intelligent digital control system based on the drive-by-wire principle. Thanks to the active redundancy of the servomotors, it is completely fail-safe and the first with road approval. This innovation enables severely disabled people, some without arms or legs, to drive independently and safely. It is not possible for these drivers to simply intervene in the steering wheel. Space Drive has proven itself on over a billion kilometers of roads worldwide over the past 20 years and is used by numerous industrial customers for test vehicles in the field of autonomous driving. The system is available as a retrofit kit with an open interface for all known vehicle types. www.paravan.de