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### **PARAVAN makes construction and agricultural machinery handicap accessible.**

*Farmer Edmund Ödamer has been paraplegic since an accident, which was actually a knock-out criterion for his professional existence and his agricultural business. But thanks to PARAVAN retrofitting, his most important piece of work equipment is now handicap accessible and he can continue his business.*



*Edmund Ödamer is mobile and can do his job, not only by car, but also with his most important working tool a John Deere tractor. Photo PARAVAN*

From now on, JOHN DEERE customers can benefit from PARAVAN's wealth of experience and expertise in the field of inclusion in the world of work. Together we offer efficient mobility solutions for JOHN DEERE vehicles and thus help to efficiently and purposefully reintegrate people with physical disabilities into the primary labour market and keep them there. The cooperation ranges from the installation of a multifunctional steering wheel knob to the installation of a mechanical driving and steering aid (handheld device), to the installation of an external passenger lift and the use of the digital drive-by-wire solution Space Drive.

"We are proud to have JOHN DEERE, one of the leading manufacturers of agricultural technology, as our partner. This makes it possible for even more people in agriculture to benefit from our experience in inclusion in working life," explains Kevin Arnold from PARAVAN GmbH. "With our fail-safe driving and steering system, not only people with disabilities can drive safely on the road. Space Drive is also the basis for agricultural machinery even being able to get to its place of use autonomously in the future. And even in manual operation, Space Drive offers decisive advantages in the professional environment - from adaptive driving to minimising external influences or impacts on the steering and completely redesignable vehicle cabs to remote function or platooning for autonomous column operation, for example in large fields. The age of the steering column is thus also finally coming to an end in agricultural and construction machinery."

## PRESS RELEASE

The basis for the Space Drive development was laid by PARAVAN GmbH with founder and managing director Roland Arnold, which developed the technology - originally for vehicle adaptation in the field of mobility for the disabled. Since 2018, the world's only approved drive-by-wire system has been further developed at Schaeffler Paravan Technologie GmbH & Co. KG and prepared for large-scale production use in autonomous vehicles.

"Whether in motorsport or through use in land and construction machinery - every space drive integration provides us with valuable data for the further development of our technology and makes the system a bit better again. This helps us to offer people even better mobility solutions despite the most severe physical disabilities and at the same time accelerates the series development of the drive-by-wire technology," comments Roland Arnold, CEO of Schaeffler Paravan Technologie GmbH & Co. KG and Managing Director of PARAVAN GmbH, comments on the cooperation with JOHN DEERE.



*Edmund Ödamer is mobile and can do his job, not only by car, but also with his most important working tool a John Deere tractor. Photo PARAVAN*



*By means of an individually adapted lift system, Edmund Ödamer can drive into the cab of his John Deere tractor, photo PARAVAN*



*Handholds have been installed everywhere so that Edmund Ödamer can easily move into the passenger compartment at any time and has a secure hold everywhere. Photo PARAVAN*

## PRESS RELEASE



*To develop efficient mobility solutions together with JOHN DEERE so that people can be efficiently and purposefully reintegrated into the primary labour market despite physical impairment. Photo PARAVAN*

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### About Paravan GmbH:

Paravan GmbH is the world market leader for highly customized vehicle solutions for the disabled. Around 180 employees develop and produce individually adapted automobile conversions, power wheelchairs. Paravan pursues a holistic approach with the "all-in-one 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 servo motors, it is completely fail-safe and the first in the world to be approved for road use. With the help of this innovation, severely disabled people, some without arms or legs, can drive independently and safely. It is not possible for these drivers to simply intervene in the steering wheel. Worldwide, Space Drive has proven itself on over one billion road kilometers in the last 18 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](http://www.paravan.de)