

Pfronstetten-Aichelau, March 11, 2025

Enabling individual mobility: Step by step toward owning your own vehicle***Living independently – how people with disabilities find their way to owning their own car.***

Mobility means freedom, participation, and quality of life. For people with physical limitations, however, the path to owning their own vehicle can seem challenging at first: medical reports, driving tests, modifications, applications to cost bearers. But with the right support, this path is well within reach. Every year, Paravan GmbH supports numerous customers on their way to a self-determined life – from the initial consultation to the handover of the vehicle.



Ready for a new start: Benjamin shortly before his first drive in his individually converted vehicle – accompanied by PARAVAN driving instructor Michael Grunert. Photo: Paravan

A look at the practical side: Benjamin is 22 years old, a technical consultant – and has been independently mobile since the end of last year. His custom-built Peugeot Traveller is equipped with the Space Drive digital driving and steering system, two joysticks, voice and touch control for secondary functions such as indicators, horn, and sun visor, and the PR 50 electric wheelchair, which is fixed directly to the driving position via a docking station. Using the cassette lift, he can drive his wheelchair directly to the steering wheel – safely, independently, and without assistance.

This has been made possible by a holistic mobility concept. "We always think of mobility in its overall context," says mobility consultant Daniel Weber, who also accompanied Benjamin on his journey. "From the first test drive to expert opinions, driving school, and vehicle adaptation to handover – our goal is an individual mobility solution that can be flexibly adapted even as the disease progresses." Everything from a single source – this makes the path to mobility easier, especially in complex situations.

Paravan mobility consultants accompany their customers through the entire process: from the aptitude test to the application to the cost bearer, driving school, and vehicle selection to the final

PRESS RELEASE

vehicle adaptation. Benjamin was also accompanied step by step on a path that many before him have already successfully taken. For him, this meant not having to go through the process alone. Instead, he was closely accompanied. His goal: to be mobile without compromise. And that is exactly what became possible – thanks to a solution that was individually planned, technically tailor-made, and professionally implemented.

The path to mobility – explained step by step

From the initial idea to the first drive: anyone who wants to become mobile despite physical limitations is initially faced with many questions. At Paravan, we accompany you every step of the way – with technical expertise, empathy, and a holistic concept.

- 1. Consulting & orientation:**
The first step is a personal consultation with a PARAVAN mobility consultant. Together, we determine your needs. What limitations do you have, and which technical solutions are suitable for your individual living and working situation?
- 2. Expert opinion:**
A medical assessment confirms physical and mental fitness to drive. This is followed by a technical driving aptitude assessment by the TÜV to determine the necessary driving systems and the specific adaptation requirements.
- 3. Test drive & driving school:**
If necessary, a test drive at the Aichelau Mobility Park or the Heidelberg branch. This is followed, if necessary, by driver training – in specially equipped vehicles and with experienced driving instructors for disabled mobility.
- 4. Vehicle selection & offer:**
A suitable vehicle is selected together with the customer. An individual offer is prepared based on the requirements.
- 5. Application to cost bearers:**
Support with applying for cost coverage – whether from the German Pension Insurance, the Employment Agency, the Integration Office, or the Professional Association.
- 6. Approval & commissioning**
Once the costs have been approved, the official order is placed. Now the detailed technical planning of the conversion begins – always in close consultation with the customer.
- 7. Individual vehicle conversion:**
The vehicle is customized at the Paravan Mobility Park or the branch in Heidelberg. If necessary, interim adjustments and test drives are carried out for fine-tuning.
- 8. Vehicle handover & instruction**
Finally, the vehicle is customized to the customer's individual needs and they are given instruction on all systems. The first few trips are accompanied by a Paravan driving instructor – until everything is just right.

Mobility is achievable – with the right partner

The path to individual mobility is complex – but achievable. With an experienced partner at your side, a challenge becomes a realistic prospect. "I'm really happy with the car," Benjamin reports a few weeks after the handover. He has already driven almost 5,000 kilometers since then – to work, to appointments, to friends.

For Benjamin, his new vehicle is more than just a car: it means independence, freedom, flexibility – and joie de vivre. Today, he drives himself to work, meets friends, and once again provides transportation for his family. His journey shows that with good preparation, reliable technology, and competent support from , a dream can become reality – and a conversion can lead to a new lease on life. Because mobility is more than just getting from A to B – it is freedom.

More information: www.paravan.de



High-tech at the wheel: The Space Drive joystick control enables Benjamin to steer the vehicle precisely and safely – without a steering wheel or pedals. Photo: Paravan



First milestone on the road to mobility: Benjamin during his driving lessons in the Paravan vehicle – and later one of the fastest learner drivers the team has ever accompanied. Photo: Paravan



Final adjustments before handover: In a direct conversation with the customer, the vehicle is technically fine-tuned to Benjamin's requirements. Photo: Paravan



Individually adapted, safely accompanied: Every vehicle adaptation also includes supervised initial driving lessons – so that the technology and driver can adjust to each other optimally. Photo: Paravan



*Paths to mobility: Brochure "Our motivation:
accompanying you on your path to mobility"*

Contact:

Anke Leuschke, Press Officer, Paravan GmbH,
Tel.: +49 7388/ 99 95 81, Email: anke.leuschke@paravan.de

About Paravan GmbH:

PARAVAN GmbH is the global market leader for highly customized vehicle solutions for people with disabilities. Around 180 employees at the Pfrontstetten Aichelau site and in the Heidelberg branch develop and produce individually adapted vehicle conversions, electric wheelchairs, and even specialized driver training. PARAVAN pursues a holistic approach with its "everything from a single source" 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 to be approved for road use. With the help of this innovation, severely disabled people, some without arms or legs, can drive cars independently and safely. These drivers are unable to simply turn the steering wheel. Space Drive has proven itself worldwide over the past 20 years on more than a billion kilometers of road 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