

ottobock.

# The Ventus.

Four testers –  
one wheelchair for active use.

Quality for life



**ONE WORLD WHEELCHAIR**  
VENTUS – THE WHEELCHAIR FOR ACTIVE USE

Information for Enduser





# Ottobock Ventus: one world, one wheelchair.

The Ventus – a new dimension in  
quality and function for active  
wheelchair users.

The idea is simple: we build a wheelchair, one for all. A wheelchair for active users that reflects the sum of our experiences in Mobility Solutions to the best advantage. A wheelchair with sophisticated technology, featuring excellent operating performance thanks to outstanding quality. A wheelchair that represents the ultimate combination of ergonomics and comfort. A wheelchair with an efficient design, resulting in an all-round high quality product at a fair price. A wheelchair for all people with special requirements. All over the world.

That is the concept. You will see what we made of it. Best of all, experience the new Ventus live. Just contact us. You will be thrilled.

# The Ventus – Contents.

The special needs of people are diverse. The demands on a wheelchair for active use are the same: unconditional suitability for everyday use, maximum stability with minimum weight, top quality and functionality, an attractive design. That is all: the Ottobock Ventus.



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## Kim Elena, student:

"Even with my disability, I am an open person who enjoys life. My friends appreciate my positive attitude and that I always make the best of everything. I accept myself the way I am. I love myself ... and I love beautiful things."





"I believe every person is responsible for their own happiness. My attitude towards life is positive and I think everything has a purpose. I am happy that I can live independently, that I can handle life on my own and that I can move the way I want to move. For me, that is quality of life. Of course a wheelchair is an essential part of that for me. So it seems obvious that it cannot look just any old way, but that it has to be right for me. I am a woman, after all."

Kim Elena, student

**Kim Elena is 20 years old, spina bifida, wheelchair user, social sciences student:** "I came into this world as a spina bifida child. I grew up in the countryside. Everything was simpler there. Now I have been living in the city for a year, and it was a big adjustment. There are a lot more barriers, many buildings are not wheelchair accessible, and often it's a struggle to find a way in. But there are always fellow students to help me. I consider that very positive.

After all, life is always about overcoming obstacles, also in living with other people. Many people need support ... which was the fundamental reason why I decided to study social sciences.

By the way, a wheelchair can also be a barrier, more of an obstacle than a help. I have used many wheelchairs in my life and some of them were very uncomfortable. While others decided for me in the past, I make my own choices now. Sitting comfort and optimum adaptation are crucial for me. You really notice these factors after spending the first day in a wheelchair. In fact you even notice them when you first sit down. Quasi right away. That's how it is."

A black and white photograph of a beach scene. In the foreground, there's a large, dark, spiky plant, possibly a bromeliad. Behind it, a large beach umbrella is open. To the right, there are several lounge chairs and a table. The background shows a line of trees and a bright sky.

## Kevin, wakeboarder:

"I'm a rebel. I want to prove that it's possible anyway. I don't want to be a role model. I only want to show that life is fun, even with a handicap. Doing crazy things, the thought of just trying it, to keep stretching the limits, that's my thing. My wheelchair must be able to stand up to me, it's that simple."













"Naturally, independence is most important for us as people with disabilities. Getting from point A to point B without extra help. I also really want to participate in a sport where I can show up a pedestrian. I am willing to give a lot in order to reach my goals. I'm not too good for anything. My motto: Just do it. Of course it's hard work. For me ... and for the equipment."

Kevin, wakeboarder

**Kevin is 33 years old, partial paraplegic TH 11/12 after an occupational accident, wheelchair user, ski racer, wakeboarder, hand biker and kite surfer:** "I started out with a handicap. As a young boy, I had to wear a cast for two and a half years because of damage to my hip joint, followed by an exercise machine, and I couldn't participate in sports until I was 14. Then I went for it and really caught up in sports. I proved that I can do it.

In 2002 I had an accident. I was working on a roof when I broke through the scaffolding and fell ten metres. Since then I've been a paraplegic. At the

time, I soon asked myself: Are you going to let this stop you? No, I told myself, and so I rose to the challenge. I fought and I always won. I became a ski racer and was a member of the national team at the 2006 Paralympics in Turin. I know without a doubt that it's possible to take an active role in life. You just have to want it.

My wheelchair has to stand up to that. Even if it's not permanently welded, it should almost feel like it. Stability is crucial, it's the most important thing. It needs to be robust, just like me. After all, my motto is: A wheelchair knows no pain!"









## Marianne, world traveller:

"I love to travel. Getting to know other countries and other people, seeing how others live, exploring their culture and lifestyles, all of that is really exciting for me. I need a reliable companion for my travels – a wheelchair I can trust."









"I am very fortunate. I have a husband who helps me when I need it. Not to mention that I live in a time of true awareness and empathy for people with disabilities. I experienced this in many countries, and it really gave me courage."

## Marianne, world traveller

**Marianne is 63 years old, hereditary spastic spinal paralysis, wheelchair user, world traveller:** "Since 2006, my disability has been so severe that I need a wheelchair. At first my greatest fear was being dependent on others for help, isolated and lonely. Really it's the opposite. Of course I need help, but I get that help whenever I need it. You need to be determined, you have to get involved, but there are so many resources that one is usually well cared for. Travelling even offers genuine advantages, since disabled persons receive preferential treatment.

Tremendous advancements have also been made in medical care and devices. The technology of a modern wheelchair is far better compared to just a few years ago. When I choose a

wheelchair, the first impression is often decisive for me. A wheelchair has to appeal to me right away. After all, if you cannot walk properly, there's no need to also sit in an ugly wheelchair, is there?

But comfortable, proper sitting is really what's most important for me. A wheelchair has to feel as though it was made for me. You notice that while driving, when it is lightweight and manoeuvrable, then I feel much better and at home."









A blurred black and white photograph of a car chassis in a workshop. The image is out of focus, showing the skeletal frame of a vehicle with various mechanical components and structural beams. The background is also blurred, suggesting a busy industrial environment with other equipment and possibly other vehicles.

## René, Design Engineer at Ottobock:

"I am proud of the Ventus. Our team had long, intensive discussions, we kept improving every detail, questioned everything and found new answers. I am happy that I was able to work on this project."







"When mobility is no longer a matter of course, sensitivity for the conditions and quality grows. I consider mobility essential for a free, independent life. The car is a big part of this freedom for me. I need to be able to load and unload my wheelchair independently, so that weight and handling are crucial. With its low frame weight, my Ventus is among the lightest in its class and also features outstanding technology. It's very convincing."

René, Design Engineer at Ottobock

**René is 40 years old, tetraplegic C5/C6 after a traffic accident, wheelchair user since 21 years, employed in the development department at Ottobock Mobility Solutions:** "Testing wheelchairs is my job. With more than 20 years of experience as a user, I am able to precisely assess their quality and operating performance. The offer from Ottobock to work for Mobility Solutions here in Königsee, Thuringia was perfect for me. It allows me to actively help myself and everyone else with similar disabilities. That and the acceptance of my colleagues are very special to me.

I have been driving the Ventus for four months already, as a tester from the first hour. Consistent lightweight construction and a compact design took centre stage in development from the outset. Lightweight construction ideally means weight reduction – for example by using aluminium or reducing the tube wall thickness and gauge of

material while simultaneously optimising stability. With the Ventus, we maximised the sum of weight reductions that can be achieved in this way and through the most compact design possible. Today I am sitting in a rigid frame wheelchair for active use that makes as much wheelchair as necessary with as little material as possible. As a result, I easily complete the procedure of getting in and out of my car four times a day. Everyone familiar with the process knows the difference one kilo more or less can make.

For me the Ventus is a benchmark in every way, especially in its pricing segment. I also think it looks really good with its simple design."











# Benchmark in quality and function.

In concrete terms: Within the framework of financing options offered by paying parties, is it possible to build a rigid frame wheelchair with optimised weight, exemplary operating performance and also outstanding ergonomic qualities? Yes. With German engineering by Ottobock.

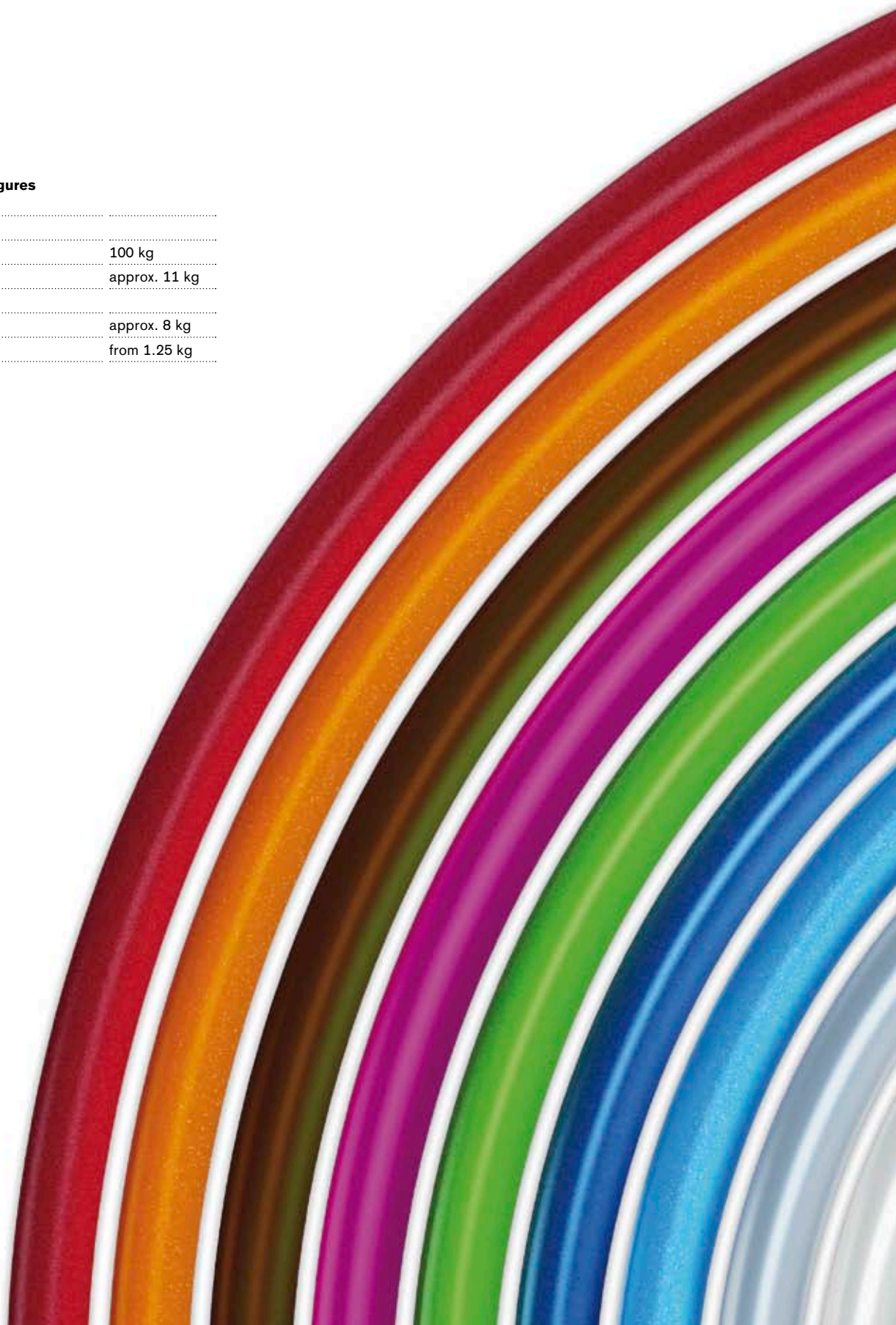
**Königsee / Thuringia. Here in the new Ottobock Centre for Mobility Solutions, a team of young, creative engineers and experienced technicians joined forces with users to rise to this challenge.** The Ventus is based on a newly developed frame platform. Combining the use of components manufactured in-house and high-quality products from external suppliers has resulted in a fully configurable everyday wheelchair with a frame weight of less than 8 kg and an overall weight of around 11 kg for the 40 x 40 cm model. The key features of the Ventus – functionality, quality, options and accessories – set a benchmark in its segment. With the Ventus, a modern wheelchair for active use with optimised, high-quality features has been realised without any compromises.

However, prerequisites for series production included testing for everyday performance against national and international standards, plus internal tests against requirements that are mostly even higher. In the end, the Ventus was certified as highly reliable, which has been confirmed by field tests with persons in various age groups, regions and living situations. The Ventus was not only developed at the parent plant in Königsee, it is also manufactured there – truly made in Germany.

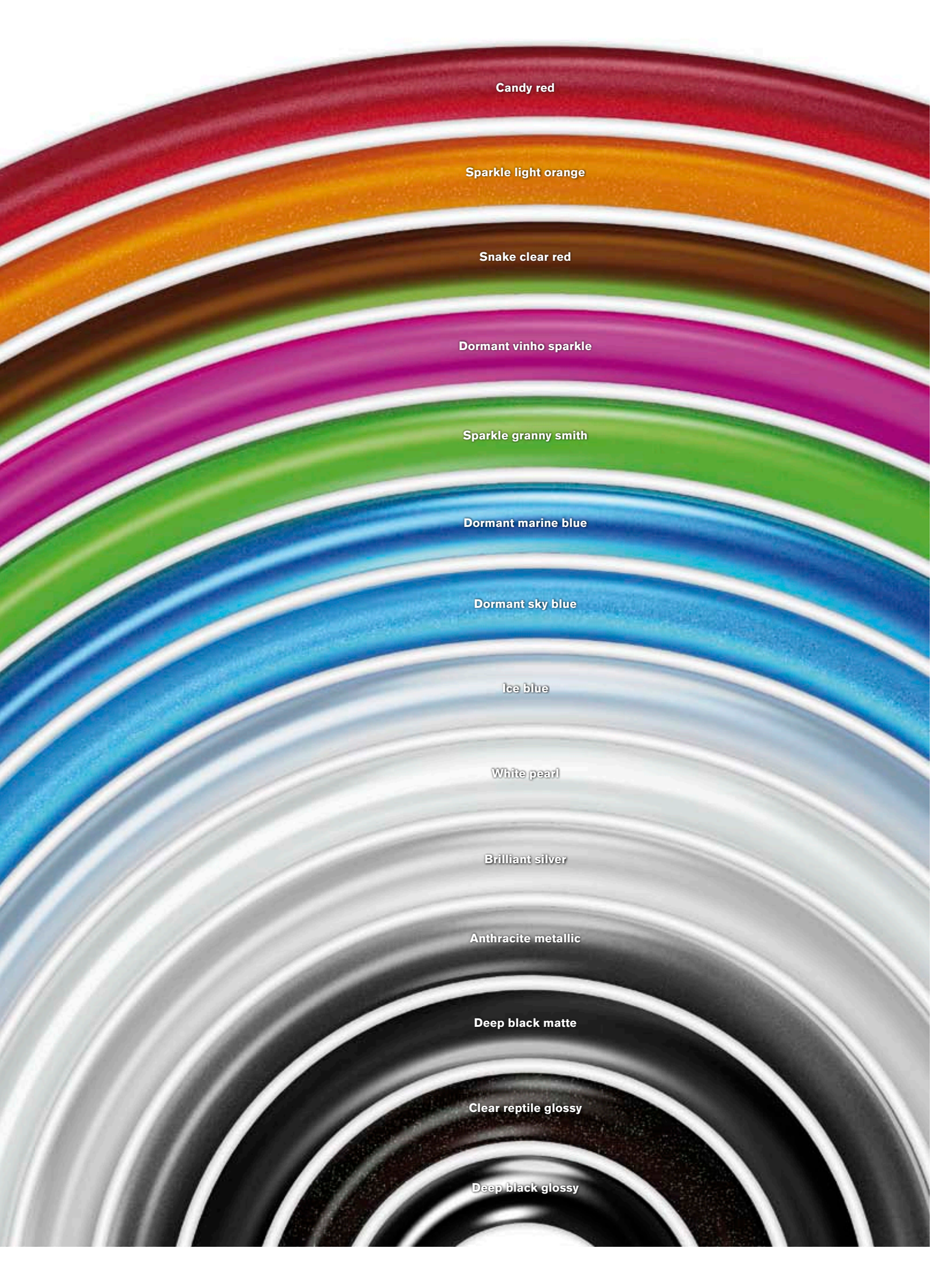
**Ventus personalised:** To customise the Ventus, you have a choice of 14 attractive coatings to turn the wheelchair for all into your personal Ventus.

#### The Ventus – Facts and Figures

<b>Basic Technical Data</b>	
Load capacity	100 kg
Weight	approx. 11 kg
<b>Transport weights</b>	
Frame	approx. 8 kg
Rear wheel	from 1.25 kg







Candy red

Sparkle light orange

Snake clear red

Dormant vinho sparkle

Sparkle granny smith

Dormant marine blue

Dormant sky blue

Ice blue

White pearl

Brilliant silver

Anthracite metallic

Deep black matte

Clear reptile glossy

Deep black glossy

**German engineering by Ottobock, even down to the details:**

Adjusting the centre of gravity, front and rear seat height and back angle is straightforward with the Ventus. For optimised transportation of the Ventus, it was designed with removable rear wheels and a backrest that folds forward. Customising the seat height, front frame, tip-assist, anti-tipper, frame pads, caster wheels and various rear wheel sizes are complemented by add-on components, footplates or stirrups and a choice of 14 different frame colours.



All information and tests under:  
[ottobock.co.uk/ventus](http://ottobock.co.uk/ventus)











