

Current Products of Franz Kiel GmbH

Nördlingen, September 3, 2025 – **Kiel is a premium manufacturer of seating systems for bus and rail transport. Bus seats account for 60 percent of production, while rail seats make up 40 percent – a segment that is steadily gaining in importance.**

Current product highlights in the bus seating segment:



Long-Distance and Coach Travel: **Avance X VIP**

The Avance X seat family impresses with its state-of-the-art design and dynamic lines and is available in four variants.

In the VIP version, the Avance X is designed for 2+1 seating configurations and comes with elaborate luxury upholstery in full leather, a wide headrest with adjustable height and movable side supports, an additional broader backrest cushion, and padded armrests. Standard features include a magazine net, table, and the “Smart Fix” system. Optional equipment includes a USB socket, monitor, an inductive charging coil (wireless charging) integrated into the headrest, as well as an integrated height-adjustable three-point seat belt.

In the Avance X VIP “TECseat” version, the model additionally offers heating, cooling, and massage functions, which can be controlled via an app.

Regional Transport:

Ligero NG (“Generation 4”)

With around 20 percent less weight than typical comparable models, the Ligero NG is the lightest seat in its class, which has a positive effect on fuel consumption. At the same time, it offers maximum modularity. All components are connected with innovative click systems. This saves time and money during maintenance or repair. The Ligero NG is particularly environmentally friendly and durable because its components can be replaced individually. In addition, the parts can be recycled separately. All this makes the Ligero NG especially sustainable and service-friendly.





Local transport:

Citos (city-segment)

The Citos is a multi-purpose seat with four comfort levels – ranging from simple plastic to 40 mm padding, optionally heated and equipped with a USB port. Its multi-part design facilitates the generation of different basic seat dimensions in height, width, and length. Due to its low weight, such seats significantly reduce energy consumption and CO₂ emissions.

Its construction makes it particularly safe: the two-part shell is designed to deform in a controlled manner upon impact, preventing breakage and thus avoiding sharp edges. Thanks to this intelligent design, the Citos performs significantly better in crash tests than comparable products.

Verso family: Verso Folding Seat (e.g. Verso Rush Hour)

A folding seat can be this versatile and high-quality: with the Verso model, Kiel offers the right solution for every eventuality in city buses. Available in six variants, the seats are used when needed – ensuring optimal utilization of the available passenger space. In addition, the Verso seats are lightweight and ergonomic.



Current Product Highlights in the Rail Seating Segment:



Long-distance and Intercity Travel:

Match G3

In the new Match G3 rail seat, Kiel's 30 years of experience in the regional rail seating sector come together. It is the answer to the steadily growing expectations of today's passengers: the Match G3 combines clear design, comfort, cost efficiency, and lightness, while also saving energy with around 20 percent less weight compared to its predecessor, the Match G2. The highly flexible design of this seat allows for a wide range of configurations – ideal for the individual requirements and diverse areas of application. Its modularity and durable materials ensure efficient fleet operations and conserve resources.

Local Transport: Vario Relax 1000/2000

The Vario Relax was specially developed for everyday use in suburban trains and metros. Its self-supporting metal structure makes it particularly robust, and it is also extremely fire-resistant. The seat and back cushions are seamlessly integrated into the lateral aluminum profiles and can be quickly replaced thanks to a plug-in system. The cushion supports are made of fire-protection-coated plywood.

**Regional Transport: Edgeline Regio**

The Edgeline, available in the Wide and Slim versions, is a modular seating system developed specifically for use in regional trains (1st and 2nd class) in European countries. What characterizes the Edgeline is its elegant form and design with edges, chamfers, and parallels. Optional add-on elements such as handles, tables, and armrests integrate seamlessly into the overall appearance. The slim design of the Edgeline enables optimal use of space, providing efficient seating while ensuring maximum comfort for passengers.

Special Seats: KL 410/440

The folding seat KL410 / 440 was specially developed for the multipurpose areas in trams and trains, where it provides additional seating. Thanks to its space-saving design with a slim seat and backrest surface, it makes the use of these open areas for strollers, wheelchairs, or walking frames even easier.

This, however, does not come at the expense of seating comfort: the KL410 / 440 folding seat meets the latest findings in ergonomics. In total, this model offers a wide range of equipment options – such as a support aid, a higher backrest, or damping – making it highly versatile and functional in design.

