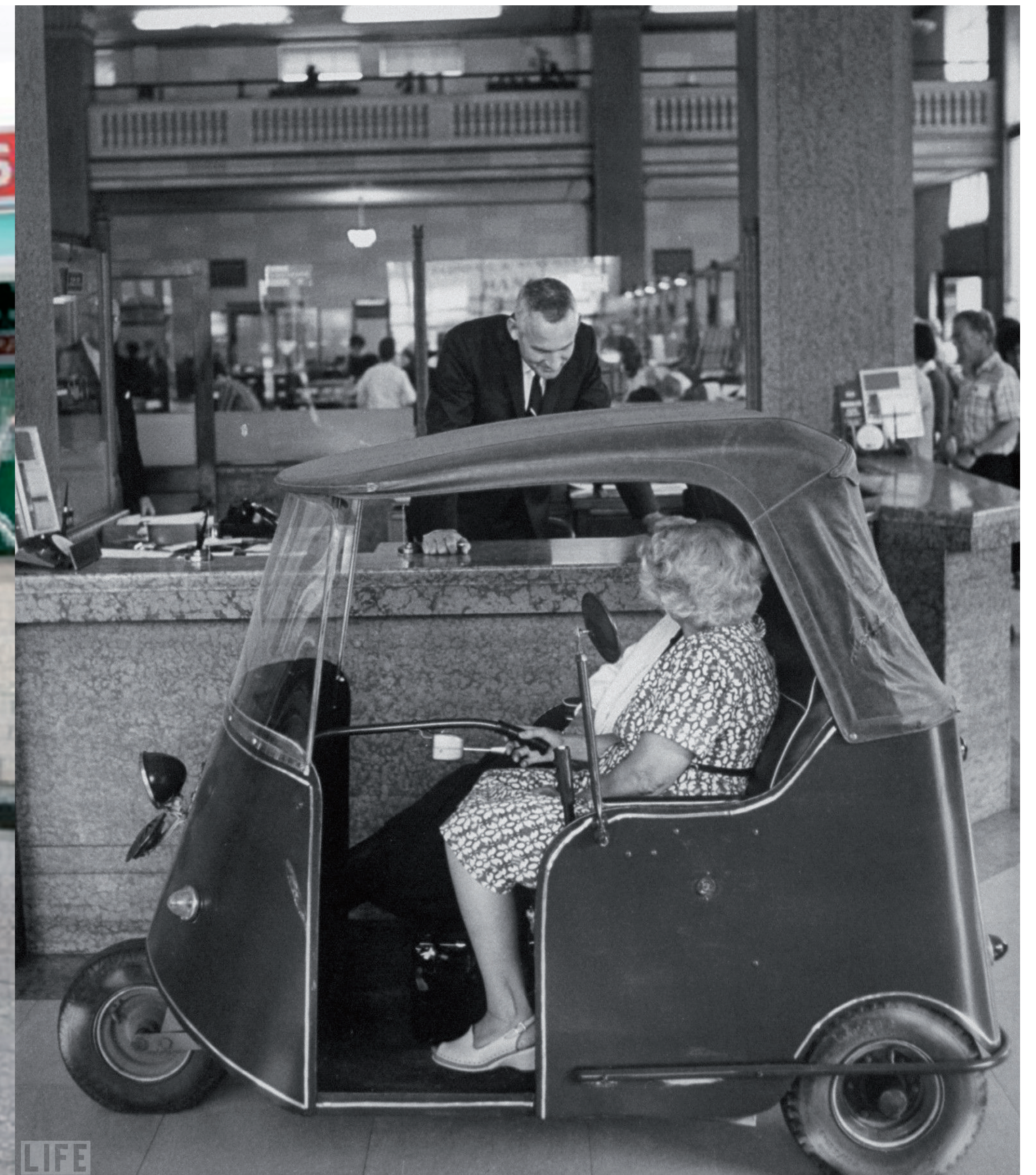




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# Grey but Mobile

## Grey but Mobile: Enhanced Care Service through Improved Mobility for Elderly People

### About

This project aims to improve the mobility of the elderly and thus support their independent lifestyle. Instead of spending their last years in elderly homes, elderly people increasingly prefer to receive care at home. Although home care has many advantages, in combination with reduced mobility it may lead to problems with social interaction or even solitude. The latter is in fact counterproductive to health. New product-service systems can be developed and offered to the elderly in order to maintain their independence and social connectivity.

### Background

Due to improved home care, elderly people live in their homes longer than they used to. This development improves quality of life, care efficiency and reduces costs. It can however also lead to solitude, which is a main cause of health problems. Keeping the elderly socially connected and involved requires them to remain mobile. However, suitable vehicle-designs are lacking, as are the interfaces between services and the means of mobility. A new class of vehicles and services is envisaged that will specifically relate to the needs of this age group: mobile solutions matching the environmental, physical, mental and societal needs of the elderly.

### Questions

Two universities, an academy and several partners from industry and society are working together to answer these questions:

- What role does mobility play in the social integration of the elderly and what are their physical mobility needs?
- What artefacts are currently available for elderly mobility, which functions do they fulfil and what is their quality?
- How does the service structure for the elderly function and what are the constraints?
- What PSS solutions can be developed to address the findings?
- How can technology be utilized to improve elderly mobility?
- What effect will these PSS solutions have on the elderly?

### Results

The project will generate a body of knowledge that can be used by the creative industry to develop a new range of mobility solutions. In addition, the project aims to create a dedicated environment, or set of cooperating environments, in which mobility devices can be designed, modeled and prototyped. In this 'Mobility Lab Twente' the concepts and designs will be built and tested in natural environments to demonstrate the feasibility of emerging concepts. Knowledge will be disseminated to national and international parties involved in this new field of sustainable mobility.

### Facts

Duration: April 2011 - March 2015.

Funding: Creative Industry Scientific Programma (CRISP).



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## Partners

- University of Twente
- Eindhoven University of Technology
- Design Academy Eindhoven
- Roessingh Research and Development
- Tellens groep
- Trivium Meulenbelt Zorg
- Zuidzorg
- People Creating Value
- Indes
- Connexion
- Divaco
- Waaijenberg.

## People

**Ir. Marc Beusenberg**, University of Twente, faculty of Engineering Technology, project leader

**Ir. Rick Schotman**, University of Twente, faculty of Engineering Technology, researcher

**Ir. Eshan Baha**, Eindhoven University of Technology, dept. Industrial Design, researcher

**Joris Visser BSc**, Design Academy Eindhoven, researcher

First design study for a vehicle package that could accommodate the mobility needs for elderly in a care environment.

