



consistently
innovative

Business Location Stade

A strong business location meets a liveable
and lovable city in the countryside.

Welcome to the Hanseatic City of Stade



surprisingly familiar

The Hanseatic town of Stade in the greater Hamburg Region

The Economic Engine

A picturesque old town with narrow lanes, the Altes Land with its apples and its proximity to the Elbe. These are the first things that most people mention when asked about Stade. Many people are not even aware that Stade is a member of the Hanseatic League.

And yet this Hanseatic League says a great deal about Stade's importance as a business location. The Hanseatic League of Merchants and Towns stands for the tradition of trade and economic growth of seaports and inland towns like no other. The Hanseatic League has always ensured a lively exchange of knowledge, new impulses, and fresh ideas. These are qualities that Stade can take credit for today more than ever.

Tradition meets innovation

The Hanseatic town of Stade is known for two things in particular: Its commitment to tradition, trade, and craftsmanship, and its spirit of innovation, with world-class research in the field of carbon fiber reinforced plastics (CFRP) and hydrogen.

Stade also offers a wide range of industries, making it a magnet in the Elbe-Weser triangle. Stade is the center of the region's employment market.

More than 18,000 commuters travel to Stade every day to work.

The Hanseatic city is also part of the Hamburg metropolitan region, which, with more than 5.4 million inhabitants, is one of the strongest and most dynamic economic regions in Europe.

Companies based in Stade enjoy the idyllic setting and high quality of life of a town in a rural setting, as well as quick access to international flights, the German motorway network, shipping, a well-developed public transport network with suburban rail links to Hamburg, and one of Germany's most popular holiday regions: the Altes Land.

Historic city meets vibrant high-tech industry.

The balancing act that Stade has mastered between the historic city center with almost 50,000 residents and vibrant high-tech industry with Hanseatic composure includes many companies in the field of lightweight construction and the chemical industry. Anyone coming to the Hanseatic city via the A26 and taking the Stade exit is greeted by a vertical tailplane made of this material. Incidentally, no Airbus takes to the air without a vertical tailplane made in Stade, because all the aircraft that have ever been built were made here.

Over the years, Airbus has continually expanded its site in the Ottenbeck industrial area and currently employs around 1.500 people. This means that Airbus is not only a major employer, but also that more than 30 other companies in the aviation and materials industries have settled in the area, supplying parts or services to the aircraft manufacturer.

However, Airbus is not the only international company in Stade: Since starting production in 1972, the American chemical company DOW has become one of the largest and most important industrial companies in Lower Saxony at the Bützflether Sand. DOW is also part of the chemcoastpark stade industrial park. The site, which is located near the harbor, is one of the most important development projects of the Hanseatic city of Stade and focuses on the chemical and energy industries. AOS Stade and international companies such as OLIN, AirLiquide, and AirProducts are also located on the site.



Half-timbered houses, tradition, and water – with a wide range of shopping opportunities, a sophisticated museum culture, and a lively bar and restaurant scene.



The Hanseatic city of Stade presents itself in a modern Hanseatic way. The river Schwinge, which winds around and through the old town, is a serene but also vibrant place. A hotspot for water sports enthusiasts too!

In addition, companies from the traditional construction industry or metal trade are just as much a part of the cityscape as cutting-edge research by the Fraunhofer Institute, the German Aerospace Center (DLR), and a university network with the universities of Braunschweig, Clausthal, and Hannover. Stade itself is also a university location: Since 2006, the PFH Hansecampus in the Ottenbeck district has been training specialists in CFRP, to name just one field.

Perfectly prepared for the challenges of the future

The bottom line is that Stade has a high level of diversity in its business mix, which also reflects the advantages of the Hanseatic city as a business location: The charm of a city that has grown over time, combined with high-quality industry. In addition, the wide range of career opportunities, the excellent infrastructure, and the very good schools and educational facilities ensure that Stade is also a popular destination for skilled workers. Stade is well-prepared for the challenges of the future. Further industrial areas are being developed, Stade's seaport provides a direct link to international waters and further motorway connections are in use and planned.

As an industrial location, Stade offers the best infrastructure for companies and skilled professionals alike.



Economic Development Stade

The Networkers

As an interface between administration and economy, the Economic Development Agency of the Hanseatic City of Stade looks after the interests of companies that are already established as well as inquiries from new prospects. The team helps with permits, questions about setting up a business, or arranges contacts with experts.

The Economic Development Agency benefits from its vast network. With the help of network partners such as the Chamber of Industry and Commerce, the Chamber of Crafts, the Elbe-Weser Transfer Center (Transferzentrum Elbe-Weser), or the Stade District Economic Development Agency (Wirtschaftsförderung Landkreis Stade), even very specific inquiries can be answered quickly and successfully, always with the ultimate goal of helping the company in question to develop, identify problems and find solutions.

In addition, the Economic Development Agency always has its eyes on the current market. How many companies are based in Stade? How many sites are still available? Which sectors are represented? Are there any funding opportunities? Anyone interested in Stade as a business location has many questions – and the city's Economic Development Agency has the answers.

With a municipal structure and regional focus, the Economic Development Agency always pursues the goal of maintaining the existing and developing the new. An SME advisor from the Economic Development Agency takes special care of the needs of small and medium-sized companies in Stade.

Those who want to settle in Stade not only want to work here but also live here. This is accompanied by questions about the city's schools, the housing situation, and local amenities. The networkers from the Economic Development Agency know their way around and are also able to help.



Historic town hall in the middle of the old town.

Modern business development: Stade's business developers are located right in the city center.

Supporting the existing and developing the new - The network of the Economic Development Agency supports all companies.

A broad mix of companies is also one of the prerequisites for successful urban and economic development. From traditional medium-sized companies to innovative start-ups and cutting-edge research institutions to global players, everything is represented in the Hanseatic city. In combination with the region's feel-good character, Stade is a place where companies can thrive and innovate. This is a factor that should not be underestimated when skilled professionals are needed.

In addition to CFRP (carbon fiber reinforced plastics) expertise, hydrogen offers Stade a further research perspective. Hydrogen is considered, among other things, to be a key element for the energy transition and a promising alternative to fossil fuels. As a research location, Stade can use this to further strengthen its expertise as a driver of innovation.



Sustainable economic development: Not least thanks to the high quality of life and the proximity to the Elbe as a waterway, Stade is popular as a business location.



New projects in attractive surroundings – Stade offers opportunities.

Project Development Stade

The Doers

The Project Development Stade is a wholly-owned subsidiary of the Hanseatic City of Stade. Be it land development, real estate, trans-regional cooperation, or a technology center: The Project Development ensures a sustainable development of the business location Stade with its location management.

Stade's industrial parks are conveniently located and easy to reach

Two new industrial parks are included in the current projects. The Project Development is the developer of the Stade Business and Surfpark, where it is creating modern commercial space. The second business park is to be built on the northern outskirts of Stade on a new section of the A26 autobahn. Companies that establish operations here will have excellent transport links and will also benefit from the proximity to the industry on the Elbe and the seaport of Stade.

The Project Development team also coordinates the site development for chemcoastpark stade, which primarily brings together companies from the chemical and energy sectors to take advantage of the infrastructure offered by the Port of Stade and the rail connection with the industrial railway station.

Additionally, the Project Development is actively involved in the CFK Valley, where the technology center is located in the directly neighboring area of the renowned research center CFK NORD. Numerous companies, including the Airbus subsidiary CTC, are currently taking advantage of the excellent conditions to advance their developments in the field of lightweight construction.

Project development with a vision: Working together to strengthen the Lower Elbe economic area.

Project Development Stade also manages the neighboring Stade Service Center in the CFK Valley, which offers service companies, including those in related industries, the opportunity to rent office space. This means that personnel service providers or development companies, for example, benefit from short distances to their customers.

The Project Development Stade is also a member of the Regional Management Lower Elbe, a leading project of the Hamburg Metropolitan Region. The project partners aim to develop a common vision for the Lower Elbe economic area. The focus of the joint work is on the ongoing growth of the Lower Elbe as an industrial and energy location, as well as location marketing.

Preparations are underway to implement an Innovation and Technology Center for hydrogen applications in mobility, particularly in aviation and shipping. These developments strengthen the CFK Valley in Stade and enable a combination of lightweight structures in the application of renewable energies.

Stade's business locations cover a wide area.

At the seaport on the Elbe, there are still large areas that can be developed into commercial and industrial zones.



SERVICE is capitalized here.

The Stade Service Center in CFK Valley is located between the CFK NORD Research Center, the Hansecampus, and Airbus, and offers short distances to companies in the Ottenbeck industrial park.



The future has already started – in Stade.

Research Center for CFK NORD

The Research Center The Nucleus

Since its launch in September 2010, the CFK NORD Research Center has been a unique success story. The starting point was the idea of developing automated manufacturing processes for lightweight components made of carbon fiber-reinforced plastic, or CFRP for short, by applying a great deal of expertise, efficient work, as well as short decision-making paths.

CFRP is extremely light, stable, and practically free from wear. It is a material with a promising future and one that is also used in Formula One racing, for example. Users such as the aircraft manufacturer Airbus and research institutes such as the Fraunhofer Society and the German Aerospace Center (DLR) were the first to move into CFK NORD when it opened in the fall of 2010.

Concentrated know-how for a unique material

In the meantime, other companies, research, and university institutions are tenants at CFK NORD and are making intensive use of the exchange and synergies that result from the collaboration. Distances are short, and the exchange of knowledge is extensive.

While the initial focus was on CFRP lightweight components for the aviation industry, research has long since expanded to include sustainable solutions for the use of CFRP in the automotive industry, in the construction of commercial vehicles, in shipbuilding, in offshore technology, and in other areas. In addition to CFRP, many other materials and substances are now being combined – lightweight construction is the goal, and many possibilities are now undergoing further development.

Hightech in Stade: At CFK NORD, researchers and university experts are coming and going non-stop.

Europe's largest CFRP research center

Companies and researchers alike find ideal conditions at CFK NORD. With a floor space of 18,600 square meters, CFK NORD is Europe's largest research center for CFRP. With a hall that is 135 meters long, 50 meters wide, and 24 meters high, large components can also be processed. Due to the consistently high demand and maximum capacity utilization, the office and research areas have been expanded. The extension, completed in the summer of 2022, offers a further 1,700 square meters of office and technical space.

Part of the CFK NORD research center is the characteristic solar hall in the entrance area, which is also frequently used as an event space for trade fairs and meetings. A real eye-catcher is the circular information point in front of the CFK NORD, which offers an overview of the many possible applications of CFRP featuring numerous practical examples. Composites United e.V., one of the world's largest networks for lightweight construction, is based here.



©DLR

Everything under one roof: In the large research hall (above), components with oversized dimensions can also be processed.

The solar hall of the CFK NORD (left) is a meeting point and event location.



CFRP components are "baked" in the huge autoclave.

©DLR



The modern campus has an auditorium for 140 people, various training and seminar rooms, laboratories, meeting rooms, and a cafeteria.

Composite Campus

The University

Stade has been a university location since 2006, making it the youngest university town in Lower Saxony. The Composite Campus is located in the CFK Valley, in direct proximity to the CFK NORD research center and the Stade Technology Center.

The students on campus are therefore at the center of the triad of research, teaching, and practical application in the field of CFRP lightweight construction materials.

The university was launched by the Hanseatic City of Stade together with companies such as Airbus and the Chambers of Commerce to ensure the long-term supply of skilled specialists in the field of CFRP. Corresponding bachelor's and master's degree programs are offered by the PFH Göttingen. The practical engineering courses not only provide a great deal of theoretical knowledge, but students also gain extensive insights into the CFRP process chain – from research and development to production and recycling. The more than 16 distance learning courses currently offered in Stade at the PFH Distance Learning Center Hamburg/Stade are of great importance. This enables fresh knowledge to be taught in an application-oriented and part-time manner.

The CFK Valley Stade Campus offers students from the PFH Hansecampus, trainees in process mechanics and employees undergoing further training a place where knowledge can be taught and exchanged.



© PFH

A university in the countryside: Stades Hansecampus.





The GIS offers its tenants optimal conditions for starting their own business. The two-story building complex used to be part of the military barracks in Stade-Ottenbeck.

Innovation and Start-Up Center Stade

The start-up helpers

The name of the Start-Up and Innovation Center (Gründungs- und Innovationszentrum Stade, GIS in short) in Stade says it all: Start-ups have the opportunity to start their own business here under optimal conditions.

There are 47 offices available in a range of sizes, with flexible short-term leases to make it easier for start-ups to take their first step towards their own workspace. Those who need less space can also rent a team office at a very affordable price. The GIS also offers the option of initially only using the address and meeting rooms until you are ready to move into your own office, especially during the start-up phase.

The GIS offers space and infrastructure

Regardless of the size of the space or the rental option used, company founders always benefit from the infrastructure and the consulting and support services at the center.

This includes personal accessibility via the telephone switchboard, reserving meeting rooms, or using technical services such as large photocopiers, as well as conference and presentation technology.

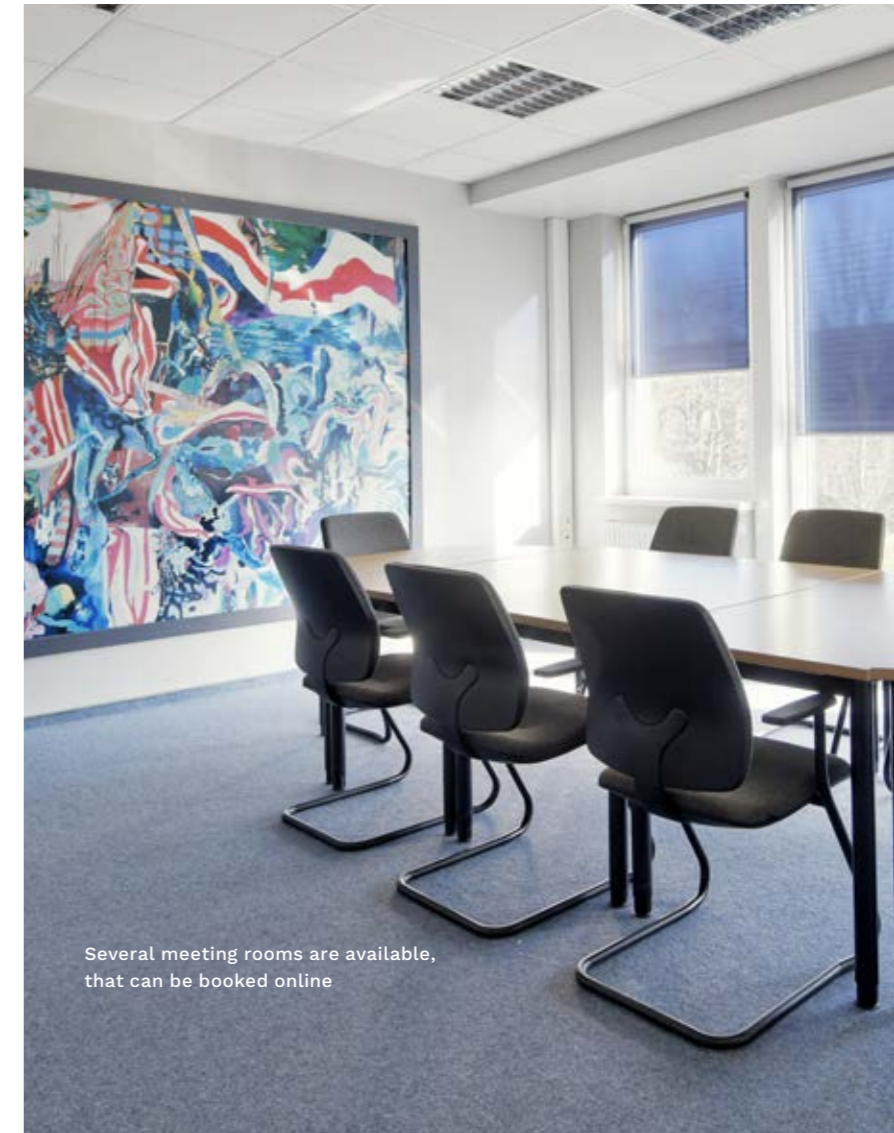


Business founders can focus on what's important in the GIS: their business.

The mix of business sectors in the GIS is diverse and ranges from catering services to mobile carpentry and a language school. Above all, many freelancers take advantage of good start-up conditions. Because the GIS not only offers space and infrastructure, young companies can also receive advice through the business development network.

Ideally located

The CFK Valley and Stade city center are both within easy reach of the conveniently located district of Ottenbeck. Those traveling by car or bicycle can use the on-site parking spaces, and there is also a direct bus connection to the center of Stade.



Several meeting rooms are available, that can be booked online

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