

Richard Kaan, MSc.MA.Ing

Richard Kaan, MSc.MA.Ing., born into a family of lawyers in 1954, adamantly resisted the expected law studies and instead turned his focus to technology at an early age. Alongside, he both learned and taught at a racing school how to drive cars swiftly, yet also realized he lacked the skill to become a professional racer himself. Consequently, he ventured into car development, leading him to Magna, then Steyr Daimler Puch, where he was part of the team that developed the Mercedes-G.

Over 40 years ago, he became self-employed, initially specializing in customizing production cars, but soon transitioning to restoring vintage cars. His company grew to 15 employees, with an export rate of approximately 95%. Japan remained his primary market for an extended period. In 1999, due to health reasons, he closed his company, returned to university, obtained two master's degrees in communication sciences, and has since mainly worked as an author and public speaker. His books include "Passion Oldtimer" in 2018, often referred to as the "definitive work on historic automobiles," and in 2020, a book on "two-legged" or human "oldtimers" titled "I Must Do Almost Nothing and Can Do Almost Anything." In early 2022, his next book, specifically focusing on working in older age, titled "I Don't Work Anymore, Now I'm Active," was released. In 2022, the anthology "A Pinch of Expertise" was published, followed by his two latest books in autumn 2023: "Working World 50+" and "The Young Run Faster – The Elders Know the Shortcut."

His inspiring keynote speeches predominantly revolve around late-career engagement, leadership, experiential knowledge, and senior/junior skills. Some of his lecture titles include "The Young Run Faster – But the Elders Know the Shortcut," "Together," "5-Generations," "More Courage Instead of No Future," "Welcome to the Unrestful Retirement," "I Don't Work Anymore – Now I'm Active," "Aging with Grace," "Of 4-Wheeled Oldtimers and 2-Legged Ones," or "The Working World 50+," among others.