

ASML - Interview Guido Fakkeldij

Channels: EF page on myASML and EF newsletter in April for extra awareness



Meet Guido Fakkeldij, new Head of EF EXE Manufacturing

Guido Fakkeldij has been with ASML for more than a decade-and-a-half. After supporting our logistics center (5L) for several months, Guido joined again our EUV Factory. As of February, he has been part of the EF leadership team as Head of EXE Manufacturing and is responsible for bringing the manufacturing of our High-NA platform (EXE) to volume. Given his current role, we thought this would be a good time to find out more about Guido's opinions and his background. Read on!

You have been at ASML for more than 16 years now. What kind of roles did you have?

I started at ASML in December 2005 as production planner for the illuminator work-center in TF, and after a few years I became Team Lead of production planning. After that, had various roles as NPI project lead for the first generations of the NXT platform. This was a real challenge, and I learned that working in a NPI environment, representing operations, is something I really love to do!

When did you join EF and what was your scope?

At the end of 2013 I met my previous manager at the technology conference, where he told me ASML is starting to build NXE:3300 systems and there is something with a supplier who is assembling and testing something in the sub-fab and we have no clue what is going on – this would be a really good job for you to jump in! And so my journey with the Drive Laser and TRUMPF started. I became responsible for the drive laser installs and CO2 alignment in Veldhoven and at customer sites, closely collaborating with TRUMPF and many other departments, of course, and together with the team we drove this from proto phase to the current state. If you take a step back and reflect how it was and how the installs and technical challenges are going now, we are not there yet but we've made great strides. I also worked closely with the supplier of the pellicle film, which was also in a proto phase and needed to go to volume, so I spent a lot of time in Canada with our supplier driving the cycle time down during film production in their fab.

Any anecdotes to share of your time at EF?



Especially in the early years, during the installs, everything that could go wrong went wrong, so I spent a lot of time with our customers, together with my TRUMPF counterpart, managing the drive laser install and customer escalations. Once, while in Korea, after a very long day I arrived at the hotel and went for dinner. I ended up in a Japanese restaurant where the menu was in Korean and no one on the staff spoke English and I was starving! I found something on the menu that, according to Google Translate, was something with tuna – it turned out to be a full five-course meal with all kinds of different preparations of tuna. The staff had to explain to me with hand signals how to eat each course. It was delicious!

Why did you temporarily move to 5L?

Along with a team of people from various departments in ASML I was asked to support the 5L management team in managing the escalation; I worked very closely with Mark Bergkotte, driving operations and also making sure Mark could enjoy his well-deserved days off – no one can work for months in escalation mode with no real end in sight. I truly believe we should always help each other where possible; in the end we all work for ASML, and we all have to complete the escalation together. Nobody can handle such a massive task alone. It's all about teamwork.

What do you expect of this new role? What are your goals?

For the last two years we have been working on defining the EXE factory with a small team, embedding the LEAN principles with the knowledge that this is a completely new platform which, going forward, will present all of the NPI challenges. The team grew very fast: in two years we went from three people to more than 120.

We are driving the five iterations program from an operations point of view as of the first EXE proto which, again, no one can accomplish alone. I truly believe we, as ASML, can only achieve goals such as this when all of the teams from all of our sectors work very closely together and make it work. Our ambition is to put EF operationally in the lead as of the first build and, by the 5th module / Mini Machine / System, the team is fully self-reliant, so we are fully prepared for the very steep ramp-up we have ahead of us.

Why is EXE / High-NA fascinating for our customers and us?

High-NA is the first completely new platform after the introduction of NXE: almost everything is new, and development and integration is done at our suppliers and at external design houses, at Motion, Berlin, Wilton, San Diego and Veldhoven in parallel, and it all has to come together to get a system working in defined specifications. Our customers cannot wait to implement the EXE in their factories, and rushing this implementation reduces lithography and process steps, resulting in significant defect, cost and cycle time reduction. As you can image, this causes numerous challenges, and we need to meet them together.

Something about your personal life?

I am 44 years old, married to Marieke. We have two boys: Vinn is 5 years and Wess is 3 years old. We live in Hilvarenbeek, near Tilburg. I love to spend as much time as possible outdoors with our boys, either walking in the forest, working in the garden or cooking outdoors. With friends I (try) to go mountain biking every week to relax, and I occasionally spend some weekends on my motorcycle.

