

# PIX Europe

6" InP Pilot Line

[Start presentation](#)

# PIX Europe

- Joint European project under Chips-JU (European Chips Act)
- European Pilot Line on Advanced Photonic Integrated Circuits (400M€)
- Collaboration of research institutes from 11 countries to create a network of pilot manufacturing lines





# Unique European PIC ecosystem

- Open access PIC pilot line

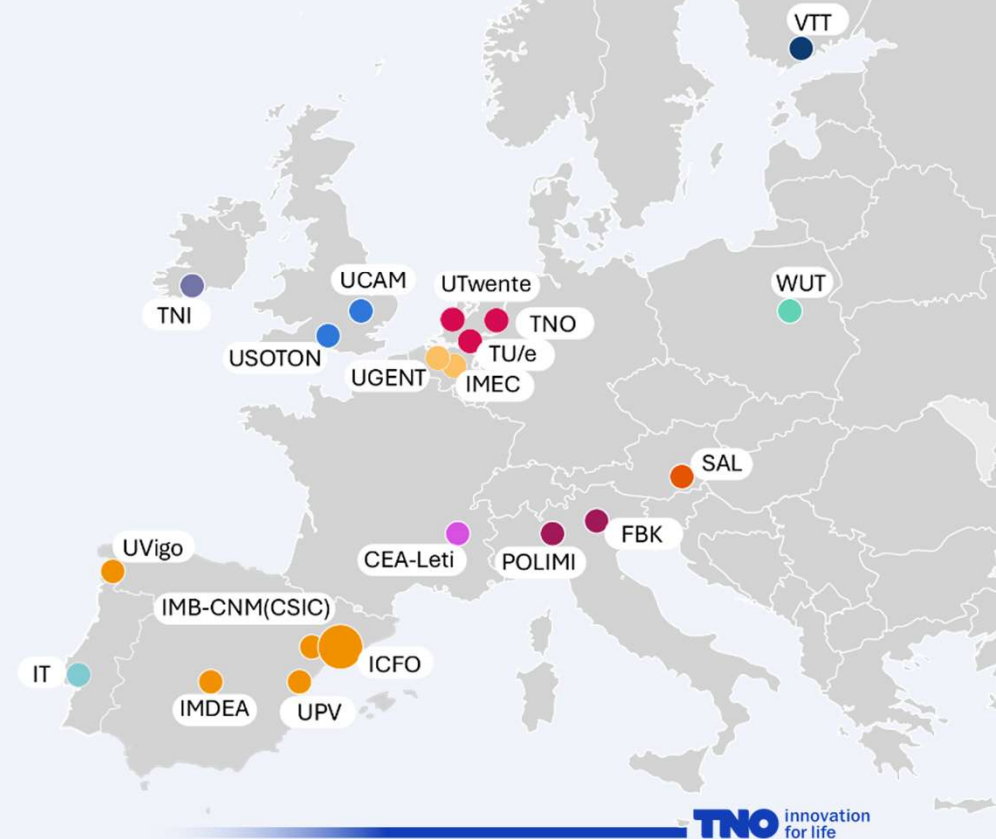
- PIC design
- Monolithic platforms
- Hybrid integration
- Packaging
- Test & Reliability

- InP
- Si
- SiN & AlO
- SiC
- Ge on Si

- 20 RTO partners, led by ICFO, Spain
- 11 countries
- ~€400M budget



PIX Europe



# Our mission

- A new building on HTC Eindhoven
- Housing a new 1650 m<sup>2</sup> ISO 5 cleanroom
- Fully automated, state of the art toolset
- 10.000 wafers/year equivalent to:
  - 10 million complex photonic ICs/year
  - 500 million components/year
- Expandable to 20.000 wafers/year



# TNO ambition

- Focus on bringing InP-based photonic chip technology from 4" to 6" wafers
- Install fully automated equipment – cassette to cassette processing – with state of the art tools
- Monolithic InP PICs as well as InP chiplets for heterogeneous integration
- Focus on proving process stability and reliability at industrial scale

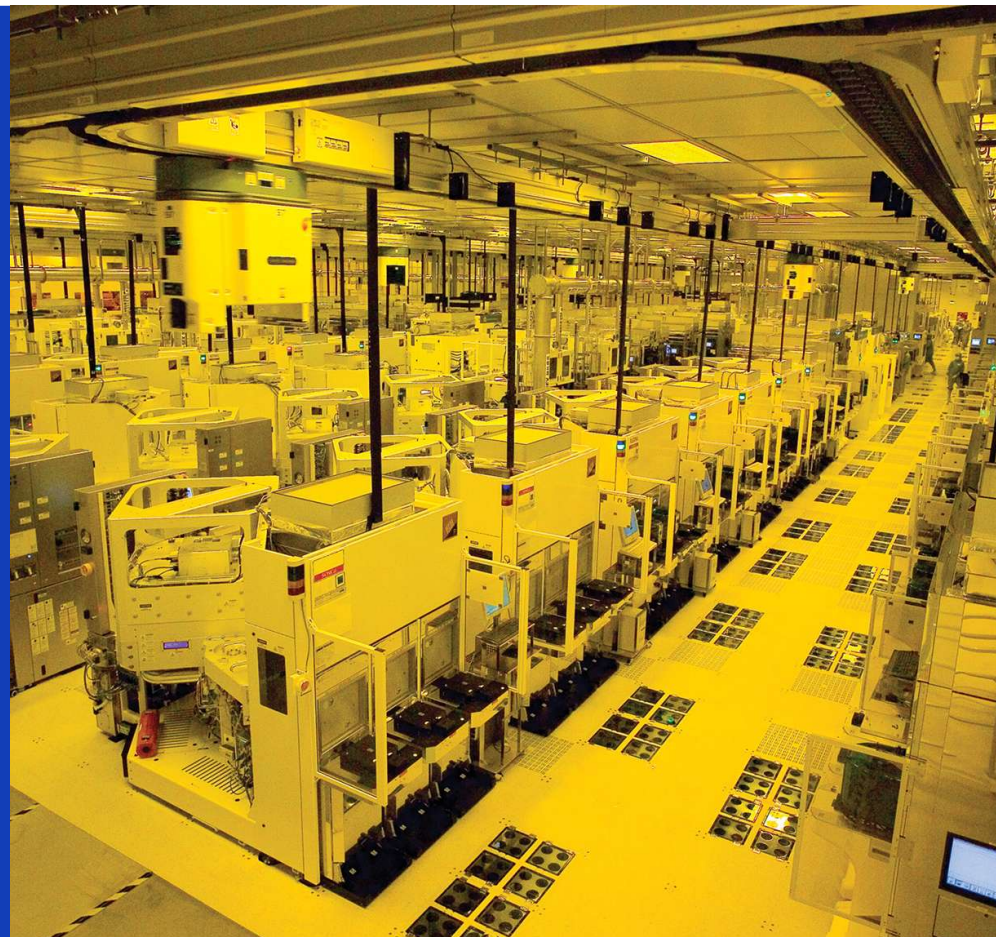


\* Pictures for illustrative purpose only



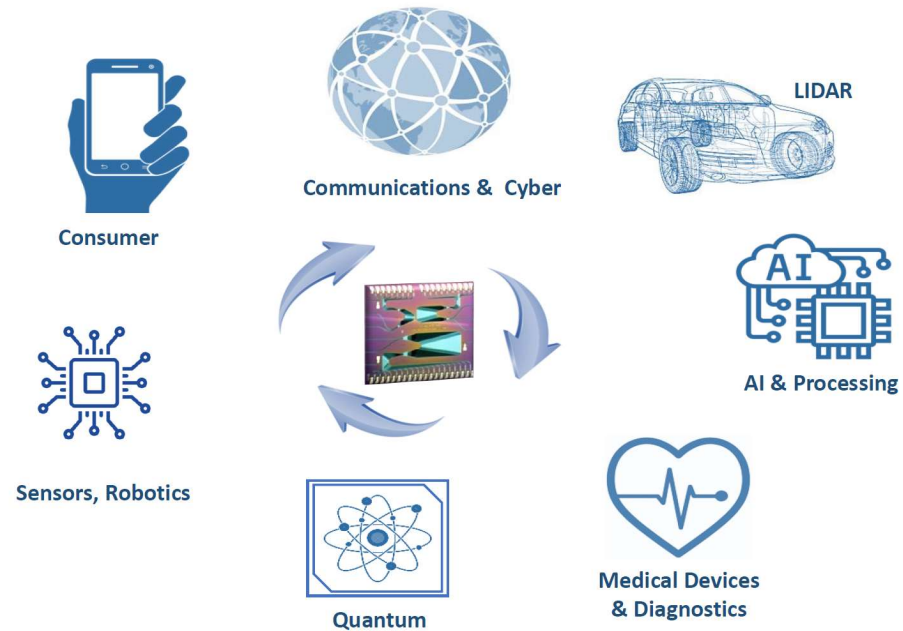
# Why?

- Need for scalable, predictable production lines
- Economies of scale: drive down cost to enable more applications
- Economic independence, own strategic control points



\* Pictures for illustrative purpose only

# What applications?



InP chips are crucial components for many applications

Current world-wide demand driven by AI-datacenters

Demand for InP chips increased 5x since 2022 and expect another 2-3x until 2030

Other applications will benefit from increased volume and lower prices

# Timeline

2025

2026

2027

2028

2030

Preparation

Build

Install &  
Start-up

Run & Improve

- Building design
- Process & equipment specification
- Start tendering
- Building construction
- Equipment procurement
- Hook-up equipment
- Setup individual processes
- Setup end-to-end process flow
- Run qualification batches & gather data
- Failure analysis and continuous yield improvement
- Deliver to consortium partners and external end-users





# Photonics Pilot Line



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