ICFO



The European Commission gathers in Brussels the representatives of the first 5 Pilot Lines of Europe

Valerio Pruneri, director of the Pilot Line PIXEurope, attends the event in Brussels to present the recently approved initiative to all currently operating pilot lines

January 17, 2025

The European Commission hosted a ceremonial event to mark the launch of the first five pilot lines under the Chips Joint Undertaking Initiative. The event brought together Executive Vice-President of the European Commission for Technological Sovereignty, Security and Democracy Henna **Virkkunen**, leading representatives from research and technology organizations driving the pilot lines, the Executive Director of the Chips Joint Undertaking and the representatives of the different pilot lines from the Member States, including Valerio Pruneri (ICFO), director of the pilot line **PIXEurope**, imec's CEO Luc Van den hove, director of the pilot line **NanoIC**, Francois Jacq (CEA-Leti), director of the pilot line **FAMES**, Albert Heuberger (Fraunhofer-Gesellschaft), representative of the pilot line **APECS**, and Stefano Fabris

(Consiglio Nazionale delle Ricerche), representative of the pilot line **WBG** (Wide Band Gap).

The event took place **on January 16, 2025,** at the European Commission headquarters in Berlaymont, Brussels. The celebration marked the launch of the first five European Pilot lines which aim to bridge the gap between research innovation and industrial-scale manufacturing, as well as position Europe as a prosperous region and leading ecosystem for the chips and semiconductor industry, in alignment with the European Chips Act's strategy. The pilot lines are supported by a total of EUR 3.7 billion in funding, comprising contributions from the European Union through the Horizon Europe and Digital Europe Programmes, a well as commensurate investments from participating Member States. Focusing on five ke areas, these lines will act as collaborative hubs for research institutions, academia, an industry. They will provide open access to state-of-the-art research facilities, acceleratin experimentation, process development, and validation of cutting-edge semiconducto technologies. This effort is designed to foster technological capacity, strengthen Europe' industrial competitiveness, and drive innovation across diverse sectors.



Representatives of the 5 Pilots Lines in Brussels