

Martijn Decauter

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Product Development Specialist | Industrial Engineering Background

Accomplished Industrial Engineer (MSc) with 15+ years of deep, hands-on product development experience across software, mechanical, chemical, optical, and electrical domains. Excel at owning full lifecycles—from early concept and design through rapid prototyping, rigorous testing & validation, to successful release.

Led major multidisciplinary engineering efforts for new product introductions, delivering complex, high-quality solutions under demanding timelines.

Particularly effective at customer engagement: presenting new technologies, actively listening to challenges and stories, and translating needs into valuable engineered solutions. Passionate about the “D” in R&D—turning concepts into practical, market-ready products—and ready to lead larger teams to elevate product and business development at the director level.



Professional Experience

Systems Engineer

June 2018 – Present | Key Technology NV (Global leader in optical sorting systems)

- Engineered, managed and optimized next-generation sorting systems, integrating hardware, software, mechanical, and optical components to enhance performance and reliability.
- Provided strategic technical guidance to senior management, identifying key improvement priorities and influencing project roadmaps and resource allocation for high-impact initiatives.
- Supported global sales efforts by delivering technical presentations and demos at international exhibitions, strengthening client relationships and accelerating adoption of new technologies.

Validation Engineer

October 2017 – June 2018 | ZF Wind Power NV (Manufacturer of wind turbine gearboxes)

- Supervised testing and performance validation of wind turbine gearbox prototypes.
- Executed final on-site validations and commissioning at customer wind farms across Northern Europe, resolving issues in real-world conditions and enabling successful product deployments.

Project Engineer

July 2014 – October 2017 | I-moss NV (Specialist in customized monitoring systems)

- Led end-to-end design and development of new products, integrating 3D modeling, electronic circuitry, programming, and system integration from concept to successful implementation.
- Directed on-site service interventions and technical resolutions in key international markets (Minneapolis, USA; Toronto, Canada; Tehran, Iran), troubleshooting complex issues, delivering training to clients, and ensuring system uptime and customer satisfaction.

Process Engineer

November 2010 – July 2014 | Imec VZW (World-leading R&D in semiconductor technologies)

- Coordinated cleanroom operators, providing direct guidance and collaborative troubleshooting.
- Led long-term process optimization projects, implementing scalability improvements.

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Education

Master of Industrial Science and Technology, Chemistry

2008 – 2010 | Katholieke Hogeschool Limburg & Katholieke Universiteit Leuven

Professional Bachelor of Industrial Science and Technology, Chemistry

2005 – 2008 | Katholieke Hogeschool Limburg

Technical Leadership & Competencies

- Multidisciplinary product integration: Leading end-to-end development across software, mechanical, chemical, optical, electrical domains to deliver innovative, high-quality solutions.
- Customer technical engagement: Presenting new technologies, capturing requirements/stories, and translating needs into engineered prototypes and products.
- Rapid prototyping & iteration: Driving fast design-build-test cycles using 3D printing, CAD, and embedded programming to reduce time-to-market.
- Electronics & hardware development: PCB design (Altium, Eagle), embedded C++, sensor integration (strain gauges, accelerometers), and hands-on assembly/soldering for prototyping.
- 3D modeling & simulation: PTC Creo, Autodesk Fusion 360, Ansys SpaceClaim for concept validation and optimization.
- Programming & automation: Python for data analysis, scripting, and process automation in development workflows.

Languages

Dutch (native) | English (near-native) | French (basic) | German (basic)

Internships

Master Thesis: Process Optimization

February 2010 – June 2010 | Nitto Europe NV

- Developed catalyst-based method to reduce curing time of double-sided tape, earning VKW Limburg prize nomination.

Bachelor Thesis: Chemical Synthesis

February 2008 – June 2008 | Tessenderlo Chemie NV

- Synthesized optically active carbamate via dynamic kinetic resolution, contributing to process innovation.

Hobbies

Skydiving

- FAI D license 'Senior Parachutist', certified wingsuit coach at Intrudair and Phoenix-Fly, and UPT-rated tandem instructor with 1000+ tandem jumps over 7 years.

Sports

- Avid sport shooter, recreational and competitive.
- Jogging, hiking, mountain biking, wall climbing, chess.