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Dr. ANTONIUS (TON) HURKMANS is the Chief Technology Officer (CTO) at the IHI Ionbond Group. He holds a M.Sc. degree in mechanical engineering at the Technical University of Eindhoven, The Netherlands, a Ph.D. from the Materials Research Group of Sheffield Hallam University, UK, and EMBA at The Ohio State University, USA. Ton works in the vacuum coatings industry since 1990 and worked at Hauzer Techno Coating and Ionbond in Europe and North America. Within the earlier years he was heavily involved in vacuum coating processes and the related hardware developments. New markets were adopting these coatings and intense co-operation with large companies was demonstrated in order to scale up and bring such coatings to real-life products in a reproducible and cost-effective manner. Examples are the faucet industry, fuel injection suppliers, and car engine manufacturers. Besides the technical experience in vacuum coatings, he also ran 13 coating centers for 10 years in North America. Ton has published multiple papers, holding vacuum coating related patents, has been a regular invited speaker at conferences, and reviews scientific papers.