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Thijs van Leest is Team Lead Research & Innovation at PhotonFirst, located in Alkmaar, The Netherlands. PhotonFirst provides state-of-the-art fiber sensing solutions for demanding environments and measurement tasks, using the enabling power of Integrated Photonics. Applications are in a wide range of markets such as medical, aerospace, civil or automotive. Previously, Thijs obtained his PhD at Delft University of Technology, on the field of integrated photonics and bio-sensing.