**Biography**

**Patrick Essers**

**Eindhoven Node Director, EIT Digital**

Patrick Essers leads the Eindhoven Node of EIT Digital.

Patrick Essers has more than 25 years of high tech industry experience in the telecommunications sector and led local and international task forces in large enterprises.

He started his career in 1992 as Instructor/Teacher within the Dutch PTT Telecommunication and after several positions he continued working for the Swedish Ericsson for 17 years. While building his service record, he further sharpened his managerial, lecturing and technical skills. In his last job within Ericsson he worked as Program Director Seedlinqs. As such he was responsible for the development of new business and the implementation of an ecosystem for open innovation within the Netherlands. Next to this Patrick worked and is still working in additional functions as Business Coach in an entrepreneurial network for SMEs and is the Secretary of the Board at ICT Innovation Program - Intelligent Communication (IIPIC).

At the time Patrick Essers joined EIT Digital Eindhoven, he was the Quartermaster Director of the Dutch Institute World Class Maintenance (DI-WCM). There he was end-responsible for the transition from a grant-driven to a self-supporting organisation. Currently, EIT Digital also investigates the opportunities for sustainability; Patrick Essers will spearhead this drive in the Netherlands. Patrick Essers has a Master Degree in Electrotechnics from the Technical University of Eindhoven.

He lives in Tilburg, the Netherlands and is married with two children. When not working Patrick likes to practice Tai Chi Chuan, play a round of Golf, play music (Bassoon and Tenor Saxophone) and cook and eat with friends.

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