Martijn Cox, PhD, has dedicated much of his career to the study of endogenous tissue restoration (ETR) for the cardiovascular system. CTO and co-founder of Xeltis, Dr. Cox is one of the key contributors to the development of the Xeltis RestoreX technology. He holds a doctoral degree in cardiovascular tissue engineering from Eindhoven University of Technology, and an MBA in Business Innovation from TiasNimbas Business School.

1 **HE IS PASSIONATE.**
In October 2016 Xeltis announced that 3 pediatric patients had been successfully implanted with the world’s first heart valve enabling cardiovascular restoration. They are enrolled in the “Xplore-I” study of patients from 2 to 21 years of age in leading heart centers in Europe. “I was there for an early Xplore-I procedure,” says Dr. Cox. “I will never forget it. I have dedicated my professional life to realizing that moment. My work was about to impact a child’s life. There are kids who are leading normal lives because of our technology. We aim to enable their own bodies to help repair their defective heart valves. This achievement is very important to me.”

2 **HE IS A PRODIGY.**
Dr. Cox is a young man. One of his mentors is Prof. Dr. Frank Baaijens, the acknowledged architect of the seminal approach to cardiovascular restoration: ETR. Endogenous Tissue Restoration (ETR) is a novel therapeutic approach, enabling the patient’s own tissue to restore complex cardiac parts within the body. In 2007, at only 25, Dr. Cox co-founded one of the two university spin-off companies that in 2012 merged to become today’s Xeltis. In that year, R&D focus shifted to pursue development of ETR. “It was a bold move by Xeltis,” says Dr. Cox. “We needed to quickly earn investors’ trust.” In the fleeting span of four years, Dr. Cox has led the technology mission of Xeltis to stunning clinical success. Along the way he has guided the metamorphosis of the Xeltis RestoreX technology into a platform with several potential blockbuster applications, including bioabsorbable aortic heart valves.

3 **HE IS VISIONARY.**
“Being single-minded is easy when you believe in what you are doing,” says Dr. Cox. “From the beginning we knew the RestoreX technology will work. What we’ve achieved in the clinic has never been done before: the first-ever cardiovascular restoration therapy based purely on a bioabsorbable medical device implant. Our devices require no stem cells, growth factors or animal-based tissue, and they absorb in the body over time. We are reinventing cardiovascular therapy.”