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Mikko Ritala is a professor at University of Helsinki. He is leading the HelsinkiALD research group and ALD center Finland national research infrastructure. He received his M.Sc. degree in 1991 from University of Turku, and Ph.D. in 1994 from University of Helsinki, both in inorganic chemistry. During 1995 - 2003 he worked at University of Helsinki, first as a postdoctoral researcher and then as an academy research fellow, both posts being granted by Academy of Finland. In 2003 he was nominated as a professor of inorganic materials chemistry at University of Helsinki.

After starting in 1991, Mikko has spent over 30 years in ALD research. His main research topic is development of new processes and precursors for thin films for microelectronics and other applications. Area-selective deposition and etching and in situ operando and in vacuo reaction mechanism studies are an important part of this research. Mikko has supervised 33 PhDs, published over 500 papers (h-index 77) and holds several tens of patents. In 2007 he was nominated as ISI Highly Cited Author in the field of materials science. He is a receiver of the ALD innovator award 2020 for original work and leadership in ALD. In 2020 he also got the Magnus Ehrnrooth Foundation Award in Chemistry. Mikko has participated in organization of numerous international conferences, including the AVS ALD conference series from its very beginning. He chaired the ALD 2004 meeting in Helsinki and will be repeat that in August 2024.