



INTERNATIONAL MICROWAVE POWER INSTITUTE

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Santón and Zhou Tapped to Lead Technical Program Committee for 61st Annual Microwave Power Symposium at the University of Washington Global Innovation Exchange (GIX) in Greater Seattle, WA, in June 2027; IMPI 61 to Feature an Industry Day; Call for Papers Opens September 1st

July 16, 2026 - The International Microwave Power Institute (IMPI), the leading scientific organization dedicated to connecting the global microwave and RF energy community, will hold the 61st Annual Microwave Power Symposium (IMPI 61) at the University of Washington Global Innovation Exchange in Redmond, Washington, USA, from June 22-24, 2027. IMPI 61 will be led by Technical Program Chair, Dr. Pablo Santón, of pinkRF and Dr. Xu Zhou, of Penn State University.

New in 2027, IMPI 61 will feature a dedicated Industry Day on June 23, offering end-users, OEMs, and integrators a platform to showcase real-world microwave and RF applications across industrial sectors. Building on the success of similar sessions at AMPERE 2025, this event is designed to connect industrial players with leading RF and process experts, enabling open exchange on operational challenges, performance optimization, and emerging applications. Whether you are deploying, scaling, or refining microwave technology in your process, Industry Day provides a unique opportunity to share your work, gain insights, and engage directly with the community driving innovation in industrial RF and microwave systems.

The Call for Papers for IMPI 61 will open September 1, 2026, with short abstracts due by mid-January. Submissions on a range of Mw/RF/Solid State topics, including Lunar Applications, Food Science & Technology, Fundamentals & Modeling, Dielectric Properties, Industrial Process Equipment, Chemistry and Plasma Processes, Mining and Materials Processing, and Research & Emerging Technologies, will be considered for oral and/or poster presentation, over the 3-day event.

Dr. Pablo Santón earned his PhD in Electromagnetic Engineering at Polytechnic University of Valencia, where he focused on the system development of solid-state microwave heating of foods and chemistry processes. At pinkRF he continued expanding his expertise on electromagnetic and Multiphysics modeling. His current role as Head of Sales & Application Engineering at pinkRF bridges users and industrial process needs with advanced solid-state generators.

"IMPI has been part of my professional journey since I first joined the symposium as a doctoral student in 2022, which was also the year Dr. Xu Zhou attended for the first time as a student. Coming back now as Chair, with Prof. Zhou as Vice Chair, feels both humbling and exciting. We've seen firsthand how IMPI can open doors for young researchers and create real bridges to industry, and our goal for IMPI 61 is to

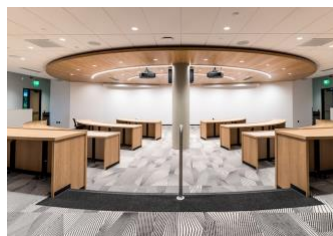
make those connections even stronger. With a dedicated Industry Day and an open, welcoming atmosphere, we want students, researchers and industrial players in the microwave and RF energy space to meet, challenge each other's ideas and build collaborations that turn breakthrough research into real-world impact," Santón said.

Dr. Xu Zhou joined IMPI in 2020 and participated in his first in-person symposium in 2022, while he was a Ph.D. student at Washington State University. He is currently an Assistant Professor in the Department of Food Science at Penn State, where his research group focuses on Artificial Intelligence and food processing, including microwave heating. Xu states, *"I am excited to help lead IMPI 61 and return to Washington State, where I began my work in microwave food processing. Hosting the Symposium near Seattle, a global center for technology and industry, offers a great opportunity to connect microwave with advanced manufacturing, AI, and emerging industrial needs."*

Launched in 2017 with generous support from Microsoft, [GIX](#) is jointly supported by the University of Washington's College of Engineering and Foster School of Business. GIX partners with corporate, government and non-profit organizations to deliver transformational learning through graduate education, global experiences, and professional development programs. Located at the epicenter of the Pacific Northwest's dynamic technology ecosystem, on the Microsoft Campus in Redmond, Washington, the GIX will be the ideal setting for IMPI 61. The UW faculty and students will play an instrumental role during the planning process and throughout the event. The GIX is located just a few stops, on the light rail train, from the bustling town of Bellevue, Washington. Hotel sleeping rooms at the Hyatt Regency Bellevue are offered for a special group rate of \$248 per night, plus applicable taxes. [Hotel reservations can be made here](#), on a first-come, first served basis.

IMPI's newly elected President, Mr. Brian Blackwell, offered the following, *"On behalf of the International Microwave Power Institute, I am excited to look ahead to IMPI 61 and the opportunity it represents for our global microwave and RF community. We are honored to partner with the University of Washington Global Innovation Exchange for what promises to be an inspiring and forward-looking symposium. This setting will provide a dynamic platform for technical exchange, industry engagement, and collaboration across disciplines. I want to extend my sincere thanks to [IMPI Board Member] Dr. Juming Tang for helping bring this great opportunity to IMPI and for his leadership in making this partnership possible. I believe this collaboration will be instrumental in connecting IMPI with new and exciting industries while expanding the reach and impact of microwave and RF technologies. We look forward to welcoming colleagues, innovators, and partners to IMPI 61 as we continue advancing the future of our field together."*

The Call for Papers, registration, exhibition, sponsorship and program updates will be added to the [IMPI 61 Symposium webpage](#) in the coming weeks.



From left: Dr. Pablo Santón, Dr. Xu Zhou, Global Innovation Exchange Classroom and Hyatt Regency Bellevue.