

ISICP-12: History of the Symposium

Professor Kenneth (Ken) Kuan-Yun Kuo was the chairman of the first symposium, on the subject of Base Bleed propulsion. However, thanks to his vision, this evolved into a series of symposia on special topics in Chemical Propulsion & Energetic Materials that he chaired for 26 years; however, he sadly passed away in 2016. The Steering Committee for 12th meeting is Chaired by Prof. Richard Yetter (Penn State University, USA), with Prof Keiichi Hori (ISAS/JAXA, Japan) & Dr John Zevenbergen (TNO, The Netherlands) as vice Chairmen plus Jim Fleming (FCIT2, registered in the UK but resident in Santander) as vice Chairman/organiser.

There were some 90 attendees from 18 countries at the 1st symposium, which concluded with a round table discussion. The high scientific standards, widely international group of attendees & the friendly & informal approach have continued as important features of the remaining symposia. The first 11 meetings have been held in ten countries:

- #1: Greece, 1988
- #2: Germany, 1991
- #3: The Netherlands, 1993
- #4: Sweden, 1996
- #5: Italy, 2000
- #6: Chile, 2005
- #7: Japan, 2007
- #8: South Africa, 2009
- #9: Canada, 2012
- #10: France, 2014
- #11: Germany, 2018

The average number of attendees of the first 11 meeting is approximately 100. The 7th meeting, in Japan, & the 9th, in Canada, both had a record number of 140 scientist participating.

Selected papers from the symposia have been published in the International Journal of Energetic Materials and Chemical Propulsion (IJEMCP). Professor Kuo was the also the founder and Editor-in-Chief of IJEMCP.

