Press release

Larmor mmWave Systems receives CHF 150,000 from Venture Kick to power the future of fusion energy

St.Gallen/Zurich/Lausanne, November 27, 2026 — The EPFL spin-off Larmor mmWave Systems has obtained CHF 150,000 from Venture Kick to advance high-power microwave technology for nuclear fusion, one of today's most promising and rapidly emerging energy industries. By developing systems that heat and control the extremely hot plasma required for fusion, the engineering startup aims to overcome critical technical challenges and accelerate the development of commercially viable fusion energy.

Nuclear fusion holds the promise of providing abundant, low-carbon energy by reproducing the process that powers the Sun. However, turning this potential into commercially viable electricity remains a major engineering challenge. In magnetic confinement fusion, reactors must heat plasma to temperatures above 100 million degrees and keep it stable long enough for fusion reactions to occur. Achieving this requires highly specialized microwave systems that remain a critical bottleneck as the industry moves toward commercial deployment.

Larmor mmWave Systems develops integrated microwave solutions based on gyrotrons, powerful devices that generate energy to heat and stabilize plasma inside fusion reactors. Building on more than two decades of research at EPFL's Swiss Plasma Center, the company combines advanced engineering and technology transfer to support the fusion industry. Its expertise includes contributions to major international projects such as ITER, one of the world's largest experimental fusion reactors, and the operation of FALCON, a high-power microwave testing facility at the core of the European supply chain.

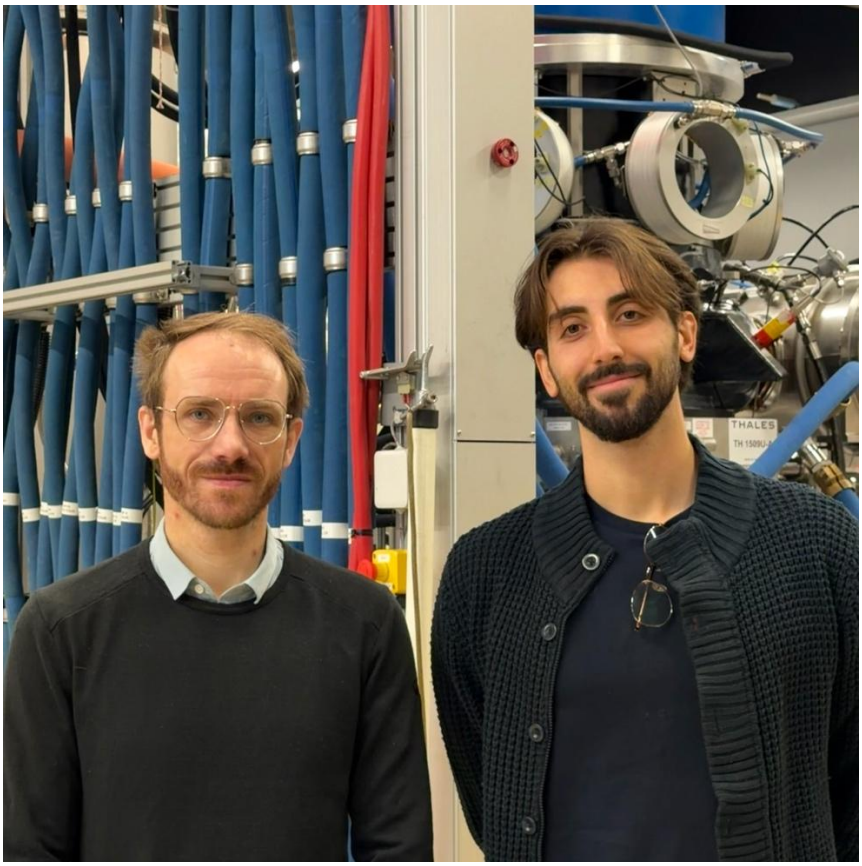
Private capital committed to fusion has surpassed CHF 18 billion and is now flowing into the specialized hardware needed by dozens of pilot plants under construction. More than CHF 3 billion worth of microwave sources are planned by the early 2030s, yet current supply covers only one-fifth of announced demand, a structural logistical risk for the whole field. Larmor is closing this bottleneck with innovative physics design and manufacturing solutions that unlock scalable production, while offering end users more than 20 years of experience in integrating and operating these complex sources in their reactor concepts. The company has already received several letters of intent from leading players in the field and is answering requests for quotations and services.

Beyond fusion, the company plans to bring its core hardware expertise, a unique combination of high power and high frequency, to adjacent industries, such as microwave drilling for geothermal energy, materials processing, wireless power transmission and communications.

The CHF 150,000 from Venture Kick will keep the core team fully focused on development while the company closes its pre-seed round. It also unlocks non-dilutive public funding, awarded to the company to continue its advanced manufacturing R&D in collaboration with EPFL and SIPB.

The company was co-founded by CEO Massimo Carpita and CTO Mack van Rossem, both PhDs in experimental fusion physics from EPFL's Swiss Plasma Center, whose extensive scientific and technological expertise places them at the forefront of nuclear fusion, one of the most ambitious and transformative fields in the global energy landscape.

“Venture Kick was a fantastic ride. Our company grew at every stage of the program, and Venture Kick was a big part of that, giving us exposure, advisors and funding, all fundamental to our journey,” highlighted CEO Massimo Carpita. “We’re grateful for the support and plan to turn this early endorsement into lasting success that firmly reinforces Switzerland’s role in the fusion industry.”



Larmor mmWave Systems’ Co-Founders Mack van Rossem (CTO) and Massimo Carpita (CEO)

Larmor mmWave Systems’ profile on Venture Kick

About Venture Kick

The Venture Kick philanthropic initiative provides more than 1 million in seed funding to Swiss startups and offers a well-structured entrepreneurial path toward building a winning business. Startups pitch to Venture Kick juries in three stages to obtain CHF 150,000, gain direct feedback, and access a network of 250 international investors. Winners of Venture Kick are eligible for an InnoBooster grant of CHF 150,000 and an additional CHF 850,000 investment from the Kickfund.

Since its launch in 2007, Venture Kick has supported 1,286 Swiss startup projects with CHF 103 million from private donors. Thanks to financial support, coaching, and networking with investors, this initiative has led to the emergence of 1,000+ thriving startup companies and the creation of 16,100+ jobs. Venture Kick alumni companies have attracted investments of CHF 10.2 billion and represent 66 companies ranked in the Top100 Swiss Startups in 2025 (https://www.top100startups.swiss).

Venture Kick is an initiative by the Kick Foundation, supported by a private consortium and operated by Venturelab. The supporting foundations and private philanthropic partners include Gebert Rüf Stiftung, Ernst Göhner Stiftung, Fondation ALCEA, Hauser-Stiftung, André Hoffmann, Hansjörg Wyss, Martin Haefner, Fondation ProTechno, ESA BIC Switzerland, Swisscom, Lichtsteiner Foundation, and Deep Tech Nation Switzerland Foundation.

Find more information on venturekick.ch, with all startup projects supported by Venture Kick, and follow the success stories of our startups on LinkedIn.

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