



Organisation de Coopération et de Développement Économiques Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development

07-Jul-2009

English - Or. English

#### ENVIRONMENT DIRECTORATE JOINT MEETING OF THE CHEMICALS COMMITTEE AND THE WORKING PARTY ON CHEMICALS, PESTICIDES AND BIOTECHNOLOGY

SERIES ON THE SAFETY OF MANUFACTURED NANOMATERIALS Number 13

**REPORT OF AN OECD WORKSHOP ON EXPOSURE ASSESSMENT AND EXPOSURE MITIGATION: MANUFACTURED NANOMATERIALS** 

JT03267769

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**OECD Environment, Health and Safety Publications** Series on the Safety of Manufactured Nanomaterials

No. 13

## **REPORT OF AN OECD WORKSHOP ON EXPOSURE ASSESSMENT AND EXPOSURE MITIGATION: MANUFACTURED NANOMATERIALS**



INTER-ORGANIZATION PROGRAMME FOR THE SOUND MANAGEMENT OF CHEMICALS

A cooperative agreement among UNEP, ILO, FAO, WHO, UNIDO, UNITAR and OECD

#### **Environment Directorate**

ORGANISATION FOR ECONOMIC CO-OPERATION AND DEVELOPMENT

Paris 2009

#### Also published in the Series of Safety of Manufactured Nanomaterials:

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The Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) is an intergovernmental organisation in which representatives of 30 industrialised countries in North America, Europe and the Asia and Pacific region, as well as the European Commission, meet to co-ordinate and harmonise policies, discuss issues of mutual concern, and work together to respond to international problems. Most of the OECD's work is carried out by more than 200 specialised committees and working groups composed of member country delegates. Observers from several countries with special status at the OECD, and from interested international organisations, attend many of the OECD's workshops and other meetings. Committees and working groups are served by the OECD Secretariat, located in Paris, France, which is organised into directorates and divisions.

The Environment, Health and Safety Division publishes free-of-charge documents in ten different series: Testing and Assessment; Good Laboratory Practice and Compliance Monitoring; Pesticides and Biocides; Risk Management; Harmonisation of Regulatory Oversight in Biotechnology; Safety of Novel Foods and Feeds; Chemical Accidents; Pollutant Release and Transfer Registers; Emission Scenario Documents; and the Safety of Manufactured Nanomaterials. More information about the Environment, Health and Safety Programme and EHS publications is available on the OECD's World Wide Web site (http://www.oecd.org/ehs).

This publication was developed in the IOMC context. The contents do not necessarily reflect the views or stated policies of individual IOMC Participating Organizations.

The Inter-Organisation Programme for the Sound Management of Chemicals (IOMC) was established in 1995 following recommendations made by the 1992 UN Conference on Environment and Development to strengthen co-operation and increase international coordination in the field of chemical safety. The participating organisations are FAO, ILO, OECD, UNEP, UNIDO, UNITAR and WHO. The World Bank and UNDP are observers. The purpose of the IOMC is to promote co-ordination of the policies and activities pursued by the Participating Organisations, jointly or separately, to achieve the sound management of chemicals in relation to human health and the environment.

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#### FOREWORD

The OECD Joint Meeting of the Chemicals Committee and Working Party on Chemicals, Pesticides and Biotechnology (the Joint Meeting) held a Special Session on the Potential Implications of Manufactured Nanomaterials for Human Health and Environmental Safety (June 2005). This was the first opportunity for OECD member countries, together with observers and invited experts, to begin to identify human health and environmental safety related aspects of manufactured nanomaterials. The scope of this session was intended to address the chemicals sector.

As a follow-up, the Joint Meeting decided to hold a Workshop on the Safety of Manufactured Nanomaterials in December 2005, in Washington, D.C. The main objective was to determine the "state of the art" for the safety assessment of manufactured nanomaterials with a particular focus on identifying future needs for risk assessment within a regulatory context.

Based on the conclusions and recommendations of the Workshop [ENV/JM/MONO(2006)19] it was recognised as essential to ensure the efficient assessment of manufactured nanomaterials so as to avoid adverse effects from the use of these materials in the short, medium and longer term. With this in mind, the OECD Council established the OECD Working Party on Manufactured Nanomaterials (WPMN) as a subsidiary body of the OECD Chemicals Committee. This programme concentrates on human health and environmental safety implications of manufactured nanomaterials (limited mainly to the chemicals sector), and aims to ensure that the approach to hazard, exposure and risk assessment is of a high, science-based, and internationally harmonised standard. This programme promotes international co-operation on the human health and environmental safety of manufactured nanomaterials, and involves the safety testing and risk assessment of manufactured nanomaterials.

This document is the report of the Workshop on Exposure Assessment and Exposure Mitigation, which was held in October 2008. It intends to provide information on the outcomes and discussions of the WPMN related to the safety of manufactured nanomaterials. The opinions expressed in this document are those of the participants to the workshop and do not necessarily reflect the official views of the Organisation or of the governments of its member countries.

The Working Party endorsed this report at its 5<sup>th</sup> Meeting on March 2009. This document is published on the responsibility of the Joint Meeting of the Chemicals Committee and the Working Party on Chemicals, Pesticides and Biotechnology of the OECD.

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#### THE WORKING PARTY ON MANUFACTURED NANOMATERIALS (WPMN)

The Working Party on Manufactured Nanomaterials<sup>1</sup> was established in 2006 to help member countries efficiently and effectively address the safety challenges of nanomaterials. OECD has a wealth of experience in developing methods for the safety testing and assessment of chemical products.

The Working Party brings together more than 100 experts from governments and other stakeholders from: a) OECD Countries; b) non-member economies such as Brazil, China, the Russian Federation, Singapore and Thailand; and c) observers and invited experts from UNEP, WHO, ISO,  $BIAC^2$ ,  $TUAC^3$ , and environmental NGOs.

Although OECD member countries appreciate the many potential benefits from the use of nanomaterials, they wished to engage, at an early stage, in addressing the possible safety implications at the same time as research on new applications is being undertaken.

The Working Party is implementing its work through eight main areas of work to further develop appropriate methods and strategies to help ensure human health and environmental safety:

Development of a Database on Human Health and Environmental Safety (EHS) Research; EHS Research Strategies on Manufactured Nanomaterials; Safety Testing of a Representative Set of Manufactured Nanomaterials; Manufactured Nanomaterials and Test Guidelines; Co-operation on Voluntary Schemes and Regulatory Programmes; Co-operation on Risk Assessment; The role of Alternative Methods in Nanotoxicology; and Co-operation on Exposure Measurement and Exposure Mitigation.

Each area of work is being managed by a steering group, which comprises members of the WPMN, with support from the Secretariat. Each steering group implements its respective "operational plans", each with their specific objectives and timelines. The results of each project are then evaluated and endorsed by the entire WPMN.

This document was prepared by the WPMN steering group 8 leading the work on *Co-operation* on *Exposure Measurement and Exposure Mitigation*. The Working Party endorsed it at its 5<sup>th</sup> Meeting on March 2009.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Updated information on the OECD's Programme on the Safety of Manufactured Nanomaterials is available at: www.oecd.org/env/nanosafety

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> The Business and Industry Advisory Committee to the OECD

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Trade Union Advisory Committee to OECD.

#### **CO-OPERATION ON EXPOSURE MEASUREMENT AND EXPOSURE MITIGATION**

In November 2007, the OECD Working Party on Manufactured Nanomaterials decided to start work on **Co-operation on Exposure Measurement and Exposure Mitigation**. A steering group lead by the US, and comprising delegates from the WPMN, was tasked with developing this work.

The operational plan outlines three phases of work: 1) exposure in occupational settings; 2) exposure to humans resulting from contact with consumer products and environmental releases of manufactured nanomaterials; and 3) exposure to environmental species resulting from environmental releases of manufactured nanomaterials including releases from consumer products containing manufactured nanomaterials.

This document is the report of the OECD Workshop on Exposure Assessment and Exposure Mitigation, which was held on 20 October 2008, in Frankfurt, Germany. This report includes a summary of the plenary presentations as well as the presentations that were given.

More information about the work of the WPMN, as well as publications and updates on efforts o governments and other stakeholders to address safety issues of nanomaterials is available at <a href="http://www.oecd.org/env/nanosafety">http://www.oecd.org/env/nanosafety</a>.

#### OECD WORKING PARTY ON MANUFACTURED NANOMATERIALS (WPMN) WORKSHOP ON "EXPOSURE ASSESSMENT AND EXPOSURE MITIGATION"

Hosted in cooperation with

the Business and Industry Advisory Committee to the OECD (BIAC) and the German Federal Institute of Occupational Safety and Health (BAuA)

Organized by the WPMN Project on "Co-operation on Exposure Measurement and Exposure Mitigation" (SG8)

Sponsored by the German Chemical Industry Association (VCI)

#### **Summary Notes**

#### Welcoming Remarks

The German Chemical Industry Association (VCI) welcomed the participants and expressed its pleasure for the active participation of the workshop that underlines the importance of the issue.

Stefan Engel, BIAC, thanked the organizers, OECD and VCI. Engel expressed his hope that the workshop will contribute to consensus building concerning exposure assessment and exposure mitigation.

Peter Kearns, OECD secretariat, stressed the importance of the projects on exposure measurement and exposure mitigation and of the future co-operation from stakeholders, institutions and industry to follow-up the ambitious scope of the WPMN Steering Group 8 (SG8) leading the work on "Co-operation on Exposure Measurement and Exposure Mitigation".

Vladimir Murashov, Chair of the OECD work on Co-operation on Exposure Measurement and Exposure Mitigation (SG8), saw the OECD playing a critical global role to rapidly develop and implement harmonized tools for data collection and data analysis at inter-government level. It noted that the work initially focused on occupational exposures since it is widely recognized that the primary area of concern for adverse human health effects with any emerging technologies is in the workplace. As knowledge base for this area is rapidly evolving, the OECD's WPMN organized this workshop to initiate consensus building discussions and to facilitate SG8 project development. Murashov pointed out that another workshop in the US in 2009 was in preparation with focus on population exposures and exposures to the environment. Murashov gave also thanks to BIAC, OECD, VCI and BAuA for sponsoring the workshop.

## Session 1: Exposure Measurement (including Analytical Methodologies and Occupational Measurement Strategies)

#### Latest Developments in Analytical Methodology<sup>4</sup>

Thomas Kuhlbusch, IUTA, Germany, gave an overview on the latest developments in analytical methodology. Kuhlbusch suggested that following up monitoring exposure does not necessarily mean to apply the appropriate dose metric. The task of exposure measurement is monitoring with differentiation between manufactured nanomaterials and ambient nanoparticles. Number and surface area, time intervals of measurement and control of background contrast are backbones of exposure metrics.

According to Kuhlbusch, exposure measurement has to focus on aerosols and airborne particles. Therefore the analysis of exposure routes is important. Although it can be observed that the nanoparticle uptake probability rises in the size range of nanoparticles with 20 - 80 nm in diameter, it has to be obeyed that the internal dose that determines biological responds is different.

The level of detection required by regulators has to be discussed; therefore it is a question of whether threshold limits (e.g., for single particles) may be helpful. Kuhlbusch followed up that whatever the political answer to that question may be, science strongly expresses the need to base limit values on hazard assessment results.

Exposure measurement should accomplish a check on personal exposure in environmental settings. Thus continuous or "online" measurement techniques have to be implemented. Discontinuous sampling for physical-chemical analysis may be the next step within the measurement protocol.

State-of-the-art for nanoparticle exposure measurement uses a combination of methods with several different types of measurement devices for various properties. It is important that measurements be conducted at distinct locations and under different nanoparticle activities when establishing continuous monitoring at workplaces.

Personal sampling measurement techniques are lacking but are being developed as basic technologies with high time resolution are available in principle. International quality assurance and quality control is very important to assure adequate performance standards.

Differentiation of particle measurement from background is a prerequisite for any monitoring activity that meets regulatory requirements for exposure control at the workplace. It has to take into account physical-chemical properties from the manufactured products. To set up standardized measurement, appropriate reference materials for different sizes and morphologies, furthermore reference procedures for handling and testing, are needed.

Kuhlbusch concluded that measurement techniques and devices are available in principle and have been tested to measure nanoparticles, and further developments are to be expected. Especially personal easy-to-use equipment for SMEs and dose relevant devices are still needed or has to be improved further.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> See Annex

#### Nanoparticle Measurement in the Workplace for Risk Assessment<sup>5</sup>

Yi Jongheop, Seoul National University (SNU) Korea, reported on nanoparticle measurement. The measurements revealed a strong size and type dependency. It was observed that silver nanoparticle agglomeration could be characterized by a specific growth factor. Furthermore nanoparticle formation is subject to temporal changes. Jongheop summarized that measurements are mainly affected by humidity and agglomeration changes in dependency from the pH. Thus SMPS data must be controlled and corrected due to water vapour effect (within the size range of 10 - 40 nm particles), heating effects, and flow velocity/powder pouring effects (occurring during processing and storage).

The feasibility and reproducibility of measurement methods (on-line monitoring with SMPS systems) have been tested at the workplace determining silver particles. Polystyrene particles of 50 and 100 nm have been used as reference material.

Yi reported that the measurements have been conducted during the production process at different steps. The changes in nanoparticle size distribution have been monitored.

In the discussion, the aerosol generation from liquid suspension and the changes size range by agglomeration were debated.

#### Distinction of Carbonaceous Nanomaterials from Background Airborne Particular Matter<sup>6</sup>

Mariko Ogasawara, JNIOSH, Japan, showed the results of measurements monitoring workplaces at different times, seasons, and exposed to different particle sizes. She concluded that background effects (such as emissions from diesel or electric pumps, ventilation, fork-lifts etc.) are inevitably part of the background burden; therefore real time monitoring is only advisable when background is low and not fluctuating. Ogasawara showed that particle background in factory housings is generally twice as large as in ambient air. Measurements sometimes are effected by by-product transfer within production processes and flaking as these processes cause variations in the physical state of the measured particle (e.g., bundled or unbundled particles, agglomerated or coagulated material). Ogasawara summed up that chemical analysis of carbon allotropes has to follow case-by-case procedures, whereas most difficulties are observed in sampling preparation procedures.

Ogasawara reported that improved measurement protocols for Multiwall Carbon Nanotubes (MWCNT) have been developed, but control measurements still have to be adopted. Different reference standard materials showed different results with dependency on shape, impurities and by-products. For Single Wall Carbon Nanotubes (SWCNT), a combination of different measurement methods has to be used.

Ogasawara concluded that in the workplace real time instruments are to be used and have to be supported by chemical analysis. The methods can only be developed case-by-case and should imply a check of background sources.

In the following discussion it was stressed that the sensitivity of the methods lies in the  $\mu$ g-range. Ogasawara reported that the background effects from carbonates could be separated by the high temperatures of measurement process. For analysis of carbon fibres a database that characterise effects of shape and impurities is currently under development. Generally it can be concluded that exposure assessment is a very complex matter but is going to be adapted for easier application by actual research.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> See Annex

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> See Annex

#### Session 2: Determinants of Exposure in the Workplace

#### *Relevance of Dustiness and Aerosol Dynamics for Personal Exposure*<sup>7</sup>

Thomas Schneider, NFA, Denmark, reported that in-house methods to monitor product quality control are already in place in industry, but for exposure measurement, standardized methods still have to be developed. As dustiness is the most important amongst several major exposure determinants, the generation of the standardised microgram amounts of dust - e.g. by instruments as rotating drums or vortex shakers - is a basic prerequisite.

Testing the generation of different  $TiO_2$ -particles revealed peaks around 200 nm and 1  $\mu$ m. For measurements with particles up to 600  $\mu$ m a particle mobility analyser above 600  $\mu$ m particle analyser should be used.

Thomas Schneider reported also that ISO has started developing tests to determine particle dustiness. He questioned if additional reference test methods are needed. To choose the correct metrics for each method applied, the activity profile of the particles has to be comparable. To determine possible hazardous effects, it has to be clarified if nanoparticles are subject of deagglomeration processes in liquid media of the lungs.

To assess particle aerodynamics, important parameters are turbulence, coagulation, surface deposition, and adsorption. For further assessment, computational simulation is a useful tool to predict real time measurements. The instruments for modelling are available in principle but need further development and adaption; more results are likely to be expected from the "Nanotransport"-project funded by the European Commission.

Schneider thought also that scenario banding is a suitable instrument to determine exposure in the workplace.

In exposure measurements it could be shown that nanoparticles attach to lager particles in the background in dependency on the particle properties and background aerosol. Field experiments revealed a limit for exposure measurements at workplace within the size range of 50 - 70 nm or within 10 - 30 nm at production sites respectively. In the discussion it was resumed that even the measurement process can influence the state of the nanoparticles.

#### Development of Exposure Situations in the Workplace<sup>8</sup>

Derk Brouwer, TNO, Netherlands reported on the development of instruments to assess exposure situations in the workplace. This is especially of importance for downstream users. Brouwer stressed that most of the currently available studies have an explorative character. A focus of scientific exploration lies with the questions of spatial and temporal variation of nanoparticle emissions at background level. Background nanoparticles make it extremely difficult to determine low nanoparticle activities with low contrast to background level. As in regular exposure situations there are only very few primary nanoparticles or aggregates but many agglomerates, nanoparticle related activities can only be observed for a limited duration. Projects that may deliver progress in the near future are the NANOSH project of the European Commission that develops modified methods to measure dermal exposure or the Dutch TNO project on developing devices for static monitoring to give an overview on nanoparticle related activities. First results show that there is no increase of nanoparticles emissions in number concentration in the size range below 100 nm whereas emissions can be observed in this size range above 100 nm.

As the measurement strategy is of great importance, Brouwer recommended conducting control measurements and using well characterised background reference (outdoor, periods of no activity etc.). A thorough data analysis has always to take into account the results of models for size distribution and should include qualitative TEM measurements for control. Furthermore he recommended to build a database (e.g., at OECD) that could be used to harmonize measurement methodology.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> See Annex

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup> See Annex

#### Session 3: Plenary Discussion on Session 1 and Session 2

In the following plenary discussion on Sessions 1 and 2 with Kai Savolainen and Session 1 and 2 speakers, the following questions have been discussed:

#### *a)* What are the best exposure metrics according to the state-of-the-art?

Participants came to the conclusion that only toxicology can reveal the decisive parameters for exposure measurement. The technology by itself is already in place, for example sensitive methods for measuring number concentration as a good metric to start with. The determination of the adequate time periods for exposure measurements and assessment must be clarified. Therefore a database could help to enable analysis of current exposure measurement results.

Particle formation and particle transport is considered to be a very important process. Within that process, particle scavenging may be fastest and thus lead to the conclusion that levels of measurement may be too small to be of relevance. Correlation of measurement results to a nanoparticle related activity is considered most relevant.

The NanOSH project funded by the European Commission could so far not agree on metrics. Participants stated that mass and number concentration should be measured together for a given substance surface area.

#### b) Which data can be reliably collected?

According to participants number size distribution should be measured and other metrics may be derived by calculation. It was mentioned that pre-charging and morphology have to be taken into account. Thus there are some good reliable basic data (particle number and particle size distribution) that need to be standardized and harmonized to allow comparison. It was felt that measurement of number concentration would be a very sensitive parameter for real workplace environments. It was agreed that reliability of measurement is affected by inability to distinguish background levels and reference material.

#### c) What approach could be preferred for exposure measurement?

According to participants results of exposure measurement should be used to establish measures to prevent exposure. Furthermore the OECD Sponsorship Programme should examine differentiation of manufactured nanoparticles from ambient nanoparticles. The OECD WPMN should take care to ensure close cooperation between analysis and toxicology.

#### d) How to qualitatively assign nanomaterials into exposure categories?

It was discussed that particle-distribution reveals information to monitor production. For assignment into exposure categories, heavy metals and quantum dots may be grouped together. Any collection of data should be the basis for further benchmarking. The participants did not discuss assignment of nanomaterials into exposure categories.

#### **Session 4: Exposure Mitigation Measures**

#### Efficiency of Engineering Controls

Chuck Geraci, NIOSH, USA, focussed his talk on controlling nanoparticle release from the production facility based on his report on evaluating exposure mitigation measures. To efficiently control nanoparticle exposure, an efficient capture system is needed and the physical-chemical properties of the material produced have to determine the control system applied. A distinction has to be made between open handling, liquid systems, and new materials that are produced in low annual volume scale.

The following measures to control nanoparticle exposure may, according to Geraci, be selected upon:

- Prevention through design;
- Alignment with known or anticipated health hazards;
- Other factors influencing exposure risks;
- Incomplete health hazard datasets that will prompt conservative control approaches; and
- Expect control performance to be similar to fine powder handling.

The decision on which type of control measure will be appropriate depends on the level of knowledge on exposure conditions and substance hazard. Enclosed production facility, for example, have proven good performances; alternative measures can be easily adopted (e.g., ventilated enclosure to control potential emissions).

Geraci concluded that the design of safety measures has to follow synthesis to production, and that many control strategies can be re-designed for nanomaterials manufacturing. Evaluation is needed to determine if measures match with requirements for workplace safety. Furthermore gap analysis is required.

#### Efficiency of Personal Protective Equipment

Frederik Schuster, CEA, France reported that the EU project "Nanosafe" started in 2002 as a global effort. The first phase is looking at advanced detection and monitoring technologies. It is directed to facilitate incremental and breakthrough innovation by new nanomaterials by providing adequate safety measures so that safe development of nanotechnologies can be ensured.

According to NanoSafe experiences, efficiency evaluation of Personal Protective Equipment (PSE) requires a whole life cycle approach. Rapid *in vitro* toxicity screening and *in silico* methods are developed within the project. Therefore batches having been used in nuclear technology are re-designed to read out and monitor personal exposure on nanoparticles.

It has been shown that HEPA filters are efficient measures to protect from nanoparticle emissions. Gloves have been tested against exposure with CNT a size range tests of 15 - 250 nm. Tests for clothes and further testing procedures for gloves are in the process of being established.

Furthermore, safe processes for nanoparticle slurring systems (e.g. within the "Saphir project" – Safe NanoManufacturing Process), surface technologies, automotive applications, and materials for building are subject of current developments including educational software for workforce.

#### Session 5: Risk Assessment in the Workplace

#### Qualitative Risk Assessment:

Paul Swuste, Delft University of Technology, spoke of public perception being derived from generalized reception of nanoparticle pathogenicity. According to Swuste, the instrument of Control Banding (CB) is designed to assist especially small and medium enterprises (SMEs) to cope with uncertainties in a risk assessment. Hazard bands are set up according to parameters of European regulation; exposure bands follow production volumes, impact, and dustiness of nanoparticles. The Control Banding instrument can be applied on chemicals, ergonomics, occupational risk prevention exercises, or nanoparticle-exposure. It is put into practice by the exposure levels "extremely likely"/"less likely"/"likely"/"probable" and the following risk levels: "very high"/"high"/"medium"/"low". Control Banding may be limited by the uncertainty of factors and scores of probability and severity. Advantages of the instruments are its transparency and simplicity.

In the discussion it was pointed out that Control Banding approaches are already being applied by the US industry. It was made clear, however, that establishment of a Control Banding regime for nanoparticles needs strong international consensus as a first step towards any further possible application.

#### Approaches for the Definition of Threshold Limit Values for Nanomaterials

Bruno Orthen, German Federal Institute of Occupational Safety and Health (BAuA), Germany discussed important parameters of an appropriate metrics for exposure measurement. According to the BAuA threshold limit values (TLVs) for nanomaterials should become the target of more intensive debate. According to Orthen several approaches for setting TLVs for MNs can be found in literature. To date, legally binding TLVs are available only for amorphous silica ( $2 - 6 \text{ mg/m}^3$ ). NIOSH has drafted exposure limits for TiO<sub>2</sub> (2005). TLVs for respirable nanomaterials might be derived from the database of corresponding micro scale particles. BSI has issued such relative benchmark levels. (the TLV relation might by estimated to be 0.066 for insoluble material derived from results by NIOSH, 0.1 for CMARs, 0.5 for soluble nanomaterials.

Intensified research on the mechanism of action of nanoparticle in the biological media is needed to derive TLVs on a sound scientific basis. BAuA has proposed to conduct at least 3 month *in vivo* toxicological studies regarding all possible workplace atmospheres with detailed characterised material. Orthen concluded that the approaches to establish TLVs are based on scientific data that take into account necessary elements of caution.

Based on a discussion in Germany Orthen estimated that for regulatory needs a risk level of 0.004 % seems to be acceptable on a long-term perspective.

In the following discussion, it was agreed, that a factor of 15 to derive TLV may be suitable as a maximum. Further discussion on appropriate factors for micro- and nanosized particles is necessary.

#### Session 6: Plenary Discussion on Session 4 and 5

In the following plenary discussion on Sessions 4 and 5 with Brian Fullam and Session 4 and 5 speakers, the following questions were discussed:

#### a) What are minimum requirements for exposure mitigation?

Geraci spoke on risk characterisation of possible exposure scenarios that may provide information to build up a library of solutions for industrial processes with requirements especially of new materials for risk mitigation to be evaluated. Evaluation of physical parameters should start with dustiness.

Participants identified the need to test gloves against fibrous particles although attention should be paid to the fact that in industrial process gloves are only needed for spill off cleanings and not as protection against permanent exposure.

#### b) Can "mitigation factors" be developed for engineering controls for nanomaterials?

According to the experts only a range of efficacy for engineering control parameters can be given.

#### c) How to qualitatively assign nanomaterials into hazard categories?

According to some experts, the factors to estimate the hazardous potentials of substances in the Control Banding regime may be an instrument used to direct nanomaterials into hazard categories. Both the advantages and disadvantages of Control Banding were discussed. The scientific background is not ready to establish the necessary control banding categories.

#### d) What are the relevant metrics?

Experts pointed out that in research projects, mass, number concentration and surface area are used as metrics. Besides the extension of metrics, their application needs further discussion. The measurement of size dependent sampling is already implemented but mass is still a relevant metric, if the route of exposure should be described properly.

According to the experts from academia and authorities, a factor of 50 % accuracy may be enough for regulators. As first step is to demonstrate that exposure can be controlled.

#### **Panel Discussion**

Participants: Kearns (Chair, OECD), Bönke (EU), Klein (BMAS), Ogasawaka (JNIOSH), Murashov (NIOSH), Friedrichs (BIAC), Wriedt (TUAC)

### a) How are exposure measurement and exposure mitigation for nanomaterials in occupational settings covered in national regulations?

According to representatives of the European Commission, it can be concluded form regulatory assessment that regulatory framework covers nanomaterials including obligations for workers. For adequate risk assessment, instruments have to be ready in place. The European Commission reserves a considerable amount of resources for research in developing the knowledge base and filling knowledge gaps.

SG 8 Chair Vladimir Murashov pointed out that US Occupational Safety and Health Act (US OSHA) states that the employer is ultimately responsible for the safety of workers including nanotechnology workers. A number of existing US OSHA standards apply to nanotechnology and nanomaterials. Examples are Hazard Communication Standard, Respiratory Protection Standard, Personal Protective Equipment Standard, Hazardous Chemicals in Laboratories, Substance-specific standards. Questions remain, however, about adequacy and relevance of these standards for nanotechnology workplaces.

According to TUAC, the application of the European Chemical Agents Directive requires guidance for nanomaterials. Risk assessment is an issue for all regulatory frameworks and none exclude nanomaterials.

Boenke and Klein from the German Ministry of Employment and Social Affairs (BMAS) pointed out that the precautionary principle is related to risk management but not to risk assessment, putting the producers in charge to derive and to read across information to assess the possible risks of nanomaterials.

b) How should uncertainty/paucity of data be handled in conducting risk assessment and developing risk management programs for nanomaterials in occupational settings?

## c) What is the role of qualitative risk assessment and risk management tools in ensuring occupational safety and health of nanomaterials?

Ogasawaka from the Japan National Institute for Occupational Health and Safety (JNIOSH) stated that the JNIOSH issued instructions with tentative guidance to handle nanomaterials in February 2008. Currently a committee is working to improve these instructions and is expected to release results in March 2009.

BIAC stressed that uncertainty in exactly assessing exposure does not mean miscalculating risk at workplace. Moreover the chemical industry is used to dealing with uncertainty in data and has therefore well established risk mitigation measures in place. TUAC noted, however, that there still remain difficulties for down-stream users handling manufactured nanomaterials.

According to the European Commission it will be useful to have toxicologists and scientists of physical chemical analysis exchange and pool their knowledge to develop feasible, easily applicable and cost effective methodologies. Furthermore exposure modelling is expected to give reliable guidance until exact data is available.

## *d)* What is the role and status of health surveillance for nanomaterials in ensuring safety and health in the workplace?

Klein from BMAS reported that results from authorities with obligatory and mandatory health surveillance have not revealed any nanospecific effect. Experts added that health surveillance studies may be adapted to new medical endpoints. BIAC made clear that health surveillance is a primarily a question of hazard.

Murashov pointed out that NIOSH published some guidance on medical screening of workers potentially exposed to nanomaterials in 2007. Until NIOSH gets more information on health endpoints specific to exposures to manufactured nanomaterials, it is recommended to conduct needs assessment, take practical measures to control exposures, and to consider implementing established medical surveillance approaches. The experts did not recommend establishing nanospecific medical surveillance at this time.

#### e) What is the role of OECD WPMN in ensuring occupational safety and health of nanomaterials globally?

The WPMN chair of the work on Co-operation on Exposure Measurement and Exposure Mitigation (SG8) pointed out that OECD is especially effective at conducting economic evaluations, harmonizing test guidelines, exchanging information and data, and facilitating adoption of globally-harmonized voluntary and regulatory programs by governments around the world. It can also provide a mechanism for leveraging research resources by facilitating international government program co-ordination. Specifically for occupational safety and health of nanomaterials, the WPMN initiated two projects to "Provide recommendations on measurement techniques and sampling protocols for inhalational and dermal exposures in the workplace" and "Compare guidance on personal protective clothing, gloves and respirators." Kuhlbusch wants OECD to establish a database with information on exposure.

Geraci spoke on market driven place process to derive guidance for risk assessment measures as traditional scientific paradigm for developing a new metric will not be sufficient for today's business.

Kearns explained OECD's role in co-ordination and exchange of information that is directed to develop globally harmonized approaches for exposure measurement and exposure mitigation. The WPMN SG8 has conducted prioritization efforts and is seeking feedback on work. The audience encouraged OECD to provide more guidance derived from its work.

#### **Conclusions from the workshop**

Measurement techniques and devices are available in principle and have been tested to measure nanoparticles. But standard measurement processes have to be agreed on that are founded on a reliable basis on reference materials and measurement calibration.

The design of safety measures has to follow the whole life cycle. Many control strategies can be re-designed for nanomaterial manufacturing.

Personal, easy-to-use equipment and dose relevant devices are still needed or have to be improved further. Standards for Personal Safety Equipment (PSE) are necessary.

OECD should function as co-ordinator and should consider establishing a database with information on exposure measurement and exposure mitigation measures for handling nanomaterials.

#### **ANNEX: PRESENTATIONS**

#### **Presentation 1**

Exposure Measurements- Latest Developments in Analytical Methodology: Thomas Kuhlbusch















Exposure measurement - Limit of detection		iuto			
<ul> <li>Which limits of detection necessary / required?</li> </ul>	are				
Shall single NP,					
shall 1,000-100,000 N/cm <sup>3</sup> ,					
shall only > 100,000 N/cm <sup>3</sup>	ENP I Number (#/cm <sup>3</sup>	Detection ) Surface (µm²/			
be detected ?	<1,000 1,000-100,000 > 100,000	< 0.01 10 – 1,000 > 1,000			
Has to be based on hazard assessment results!					

























Need of investigations of exposure relevant material characteristics allowing early assessments

#### **Presentation 2**

Distinction Between Carbonaceous Nanomaterials and Background Airborne Particulate Matter: Mariko Ono-Ogasawara



- Introduction
  - Background effect
  - Sources
  - Effects on measurement
- How to distinguish between nanomaterial and background
  - Examples MWCNT and Fullerene
- Conclusion
  - Procedure for exposure measurement

## Introduction

Qualitative measurement

- · To find hot spot of nano-particles
  - with real-time monitoring instruments
     OPC (Optical Particle Counter)
     OPC (Optical Particle Counter)
    - CPC (Condensation Particle Counter)
    - Available only when background concentration <u>low and not fluctuated</u>
  - Electron microscope not quatitative







# Background sources and components of nano-size particles

Sources	Components				
	OC	EC	Metals	Others	Nanomaterials
Ambient PM	0	0	$\bigcirc$	$\bigcirc$	
Forklifts	0	0			
Machines	0		0		
Oil pumps	$\bigcirc$		$\bigcirc$		
Vacuum cleaners			0	$\bigcirc$	0
Air conditioning	$\bigcirc$	$\bigcirc$	$\bigcirc$	$\bigcirc$	0

# Effects of background PM on measurement

Real-time monitoring instruments suitable only for clean environment because not able to separate objective particles from background PM

Quantitative measurement is needed

•To distinguish objective particles from background PM

•To support real-time measurement

•To determine concentration of nanomaterial

 <u>Chemical analysis is necessary</u> in many cases because of background effect

## Chemical analysis

Selection of methods – case by case

Nano-materials containing metals

- ICP-MS
  - Pre-treatment is difficult
- Carbonaceous materials

(Carbon nanotubes, Fullerenes)

 No appropriate methods for monitoring carbon nanotubes and fullerene






400 thothe

300 Ê



300 Ĕ

1000 . Time (sec) 

g

## Results of field survey: MWCNT production

- Data not allowed to show
- MWCNT in work environment and personal exposure monitored with EC3
- EC3 shows
  - Different size distribution for maintenance and packing work
  - Mitigation effect of engineering control observed
  - Background in factory house twice larger than outside ambient air

# Analysis of C<sub>60</sub>

- Instruments: HPLC/UV
- Using ordinary reversed phase column
- Toluene/acetonitrile eluent



#### **Presentation 3**

Relevance of Dustiness and Aerosol Dynamics for Personal Exposure: Thomas Schneider



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st2

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![](_page_49_Picture_1.jpeg)

![](_page_49_Figure_2.jpeg)

![](_page_50_Picture_1.jpeg)

![](_page_50_Figure_2.jpeg)

![](_page_51_Figure_1.jpeg)

![](_page_51_Figure_2.jpeg)

#### **Presentation 4**

Development of Exposure Situations for Manufactured Nanoparticles (MNPs): Derk Brouwer

![](_page_52_Picture_3.jpeg)

![](_page_52_Picture_4.jpeg)

![](_page_53_Figure_1.jpeg)

![](_page_53_Figure_2.jpeg)

![](_page_54_Figure_1.jpeg)

![](_page_54_Figure_2.jpeg)

![](_page_55_Figure_1.jpeg)

	Inst	rumentatic	on	
On-line	Size distribution	SMPS (ELPI)	APS	
	Number concentration	SMPS ELPI	CPC	
	Mass concentration	TEOM DUSTTRAK		
	Surface concentration	LQ1-DC	NSAM	
Off-line	Sampling	TEM grid (precipitator)	Filter (PAS) Impactor	
	Analysis (size/shape)	TEM	SEM	
	Analysis (elemental)	EDS/EDX	Carbon detection	
OECD WPNM SG8 w	orkshop		Franki	furt 20-10-2008

![](_page_56_Picture_1.jpeg)

![](_page_56_Figure_2.jpeg)

![](_page_57_Figure_1.jpeg)

![](_page_57_Picture_2.jpeg)

![](_page_58_Figure_1.jpeg)

![](_page_58_Picture_2.jpeg)

![](_page_59_Figure_1.jpeg)

![](_page_59_Figure_2.jpeg)

![](_page_60_Figure_1.jpeg)

![](_page_60_Picture_2.jpeg)

![](_page_61_Figure_1.jpeg)

![](_page_61_Figure_2.jpeg)

![](_page_62_Figure_1.jpeg)

![](_page_62_Figure_2.jpeg)

![](_page_63_Figure_1.jpeg)

Bag emptying			MNP (fumed silica) Confirmed by TEM analysis	
	Measurement		Estimate of exposure (per person/shift)	
	Average (µm2/cm3)	Duration (min)	Cumulative Total surface area(µm2/cm3)	Cumulative MNP surface area(µm2/cm3)
Activity	41	12	± 482 (± 3.4 %)	± 84 (± 0.6 %)
Non-activity	34	408	± 13900	

![](_page_64_Figure_1.jpeg)

![](_page_64_Figure_2.jpeg)

![](_page_65_Figure_1.jpeg)

![](_page_65_Figure_2.jpeg)

![](_page_66_Figure_1.jpeg)

	r.a. m.a	1 10 A					
REACH	Nick Warren <sup>2</sup> ,	3700 AJ Zeist, The Netherlands					
	Martie van Tongere	ren*, 3 NRCWE, Denmark					
	Peter Ritchie <sup>4</sup> ,	5 BAuA, Germany					
INO   Knowledge for businesss	Hans Kromhout <sup>6</sup> ,	<ul> <li>b inko, utrecht universitij, ine nethendoas</li> <li>b - 21 Treck in no.</li> </ul>					
	Jody Schniek, * * * * 3 30 <del>59 42 10</del> Jody xa Hermen <sup>6</sup> , * * * 33 0 59 44 70						
	John Cherrie* Erik.Teidemansgitro.nl						
Development of an adv	Development of an advanced exposure						
according to the state of the s							
assessment toor. Advar	assessment tool: Advanced REACh lool (ART)						
Scenarios, Currently a higher Tier model deperating real	tic expectively cope with	in the broad range of Exposure					
exposure assessment tool is under development.	exposure assessment tool is under development.						
	and the second se						
Introduction Under REACh. Exposure Scenarios need to be developed, which describe the use of a	Dable. Mine mutually independent modify	fying factors.					
dangerous substances under relevant Operational Conditions and Rick Management	Model component Mo Source Acti	oditying factor tivity emission potential					
Measures. The Chemical Safety Report must document that the levels of exposure in these Exposure Scenarios are cafe. In the likely absence of good quality comprehen-	Sub Transmission Loc	utatance emission potential					
sive exposure data for many substances (especially for downstream users) exposure assessment tools are required. Currently, a higher ther model generating realistic	Sep	paration					
exposure estimates is missing. A new advanced exposure assessment tool is under	Seg War	over peparion. Međajou					
development.	Dis	spersion dara constraination / Buildian amination					
Outline of assisst	Receptor Res	replicatory protection					
			-				
30 OECD WPNM SG8 workshop		Frankfurt 20-10-2008	TEC				
p							

![](_page_67_Figure_1.jpeg)

![](_page_67_Figure_2.jpeg)

	Acknowledgment
	<ul> <li>TNO QoL: Birgit Stuurman, Tim Meijster, Marieke Op de Weegh</li> <li>NANOSH WP2/ Exposure Assessment</li> <li>BGIA: Johannes Welter, Carsten Möhlmann. Markus Berges</li> <li>HSL: Delphine Bard, Dave Mark</li> <li>CIOP: Elzbieta Jankowska</li> </ul>
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#### **Presentation 5**

Control Banding Nanotool- A Qualitative Risk Assessment Method: Paul Swuste

![](_page_69_Picture_3.jpeg)

size, reactivity, barrier crossing

health hazards:

Carbon nanotubes introduced into the abdominal cavity of mice show asbestos-like pathogenicity in a pilot study (Poland et al., 2008)

public perception:

Prey (Crichton, 2002)

![](_page_70_Figure_1.jpeg)

![](_page_70_Picture_2.jpeg)

### **Origin of control banding**

Pharmaceutical industry, toxicological uncertainties (1970 - 1980) UK COSHH Essentials (Annals, 1998) Control banding workshops (Annals, 2003; Zalk & Nelson, 2008)

#### Control banding, a qualitative risk assessment method

hazard bands: exposure scenarios (bands): volume, dustiness, volatility control levels:

EU risk phrases engineering principles
## **Control Banding applications**

chemicals (WHO, ILO, IOHA, Jones et al., 2004) ergonomics (Zalk, 2001) occupational risk prevention strategies (Swuste, 2007) nanoparticles exposure (Paik et al., 2008)



Control banding nanotool				
	extremely unlikely (0-25)	less likely (26-50)	likely (51-75)	probable (76-100)
very high (76-100)	RL 3	RL 3	RL 4	RL 4
high (51-75)	RL 2	RL 2	RL 3	RL 4
medium (26-50)	RL 1	RL 1	RL 2	RL 3
low (0-25)	RL 1	RL 1	RL 1	RL 2

Severity score (0 – 100)			
<ul> <li>physical properties</li> <li>toxicological properties</li> <li>toxicological properties parent materials</li> </ul>	0 - 10 0 - 7.5 0 - 5		
Probability score (0 – 100)			
<ul> <li>amount used</li> <li>dustiness</li> <li>exposed population</li> <li>frequency and duration of operation</li> </ul>	6.25 - 25 7.5 - 30 5 - 15 0 - 15		
unknown ≡ 75% of highest score			

Severity score (1)		
surface chemistry	high: medium: low: unknown:	10 5 0 7.5
particle size	tubular, fibrous: anisotropic: compact or spherical: unknown:	10 5 0 7.5
particle diameter	1 – 10 nm: 11 - 40 nm: < 41 – 100 nm: unknown:	10 5 0 7.5
solubility	insoluble: soluble: unknown:	10 5 7.5

Severity score (2)			
<ul> <li>carcogenicity</li> <li>reproductive toxicity</li> <li>mutagenicity</li> <li>dermal toxicity</li> </ul>	yes: no: unknown:	7.5 0 5.625	
toxicity parent material	0 – 1 μgm <sup>-3</sup> : 2 – 10 μgm <sup>-3</sup> : < 41 - 100 μgm <sup>-3</sup> : > 100 μgm <sup>-3</sup> : unknown:	10 5 2.5 0 7.5	
<ul> <li>carcogenicity parent material</li> <li>reproductive toxicity parent material</li> <li>mutagenicity parent material</li> <li>dermal toxicity parent material</li> </ul>	yes: no: unknown:	5 0 3.75	

Probability score (1)			
estimated amount during operation	> 100 mg: 11 – 100 mg: 0 – 10 mg: unknown:	25 12.5 6.25 18.75	
dustiness/mistiness	high: medium: low: unknown:	30 15 7.5 22.5	
number of employees	> 15: 11 – 15: 6 – 10: unknown:	15 10 5 11.25	

# Probability score (2)

<ul> <li>frequency of operation</li> </ul>	daily:	15
	weekly:	10
	monthly:	5
	less than mont	thly: 0
	unknown:	11.25
duration of operation	> 4 hr:	15
	1 – 4 hr:	10
	30 -60 min:	5
	< 30 min:	0
	unknown:	11.25

Control banding nanotool				
	extremely unlikely (0-25)	less likely (26-50)	likely (51-75)	probable (76-100)
very high (76-100)	RL 3	RL 3	RL 4	RL 4
high (51-75)	RL 2	RL 2	RL 3	RL 4
medium (26-50)	RL 1	RL 1	RL 2	RL 3
low (0-25)	RL 1	RL 1	RL 1	RL 2

### Discussion

risk management ≡ managing scenarios

limitations

- · factors and scores of probability and severity
- no design changes

advantages

- transparent, logical, and simple tool
- · support for decision making under uncertainties

### **Presentation 6**

Approaches for the Definition of Threshold Limit Values for Nanomaterials: Bruno Orthen













#### ENV/JM/MONO(2009)18







Comparison of dose metrics in relation to mass			
Mass	diameter	Relation of surfaces (related to 2 μm)	Relation of particle numbers (related to 2 μm)
1	2 µm	1	1
1	200 nm	10	1.000
1	20 nm	100	1.000.000
1	2 nm	1.000	1.000.000.000
Surfac Numb by sca	ce: Strong er concen aling down	increase of toxicity tration: Very strong particles	by scaling down particles increase of toxicity

Dr. B. Orthen, BAuA, 20.10.08

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Saua:











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