## Training Workers about Nanomaterials

WestON Conference, Denver September 30, 2016

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### **Introductory Comments**



Electron micrograph of a metal oxide nanoparticle

### **Background on the speaker**



Early warning of interest in Industrial Hygiene

## **CPWR** is a U.S. nonprofit funded by NIOSH and NIEHS



My comments are my own and not those of NIOSH or NIEHS

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#### What's New

Model Silica Specifications for Masonry Grinding, Cutting and Sawing

An Evaluation of Silica Exposure Controls for Tuckpointing: DustControl 2900c Vacuum with the ICS Du...

An Evaluation of Silica



Join us

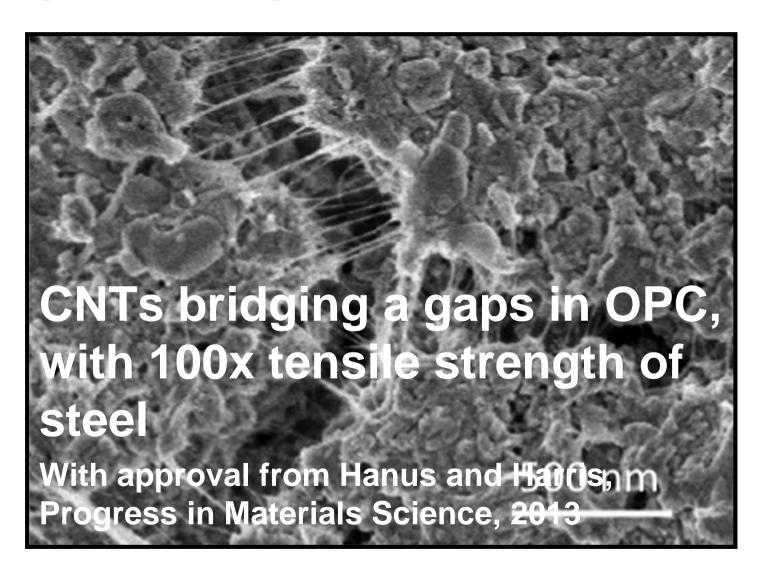
## When we think of nanomaterials, we see this:



Center for Nanophase Materials Science, Oak Ridge, TN

**But not construction!** 

## Nanomaterials are bringing major changes to construction



# No epi studies, but mesotheliomas have been produced in mice with MWCNTs (Takagi 08, Poland 08)



Multi-walled carbon nanotube penetrating the pleura of the lung. Courtesy of Robert Mercer, and Diane Schwegler- Berry, NIOSH

## Here's the questions we'll tackle:

- 1. What do we know about use of nanomaterials in construction?
- 2. What is the state of hazard communication around nanomaterials?
- 3. How informed are workers?
- 4. How should workers be trained about nanomaterials?

# What do we know about the use of nanomaterials in construction?

Question 1

# Does any organization know how many nano-enabled products are in commerce?



## Construction workers apply greater energy to nanomaterials



### Construction exposures may be greater when the life cycle is considered



TiO<sub>2</sub> selfcleaning windows can reduce worker fall exposures

March 16, 2015 outside my office!



# One prediction is by 2025, over 50% of building materials will contain nanomaterials

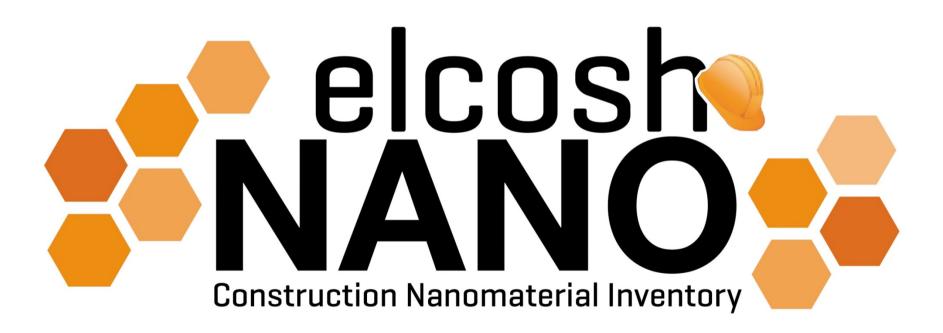


That is a long way from where we are now!

Courtesy Dr. Wendy Jones

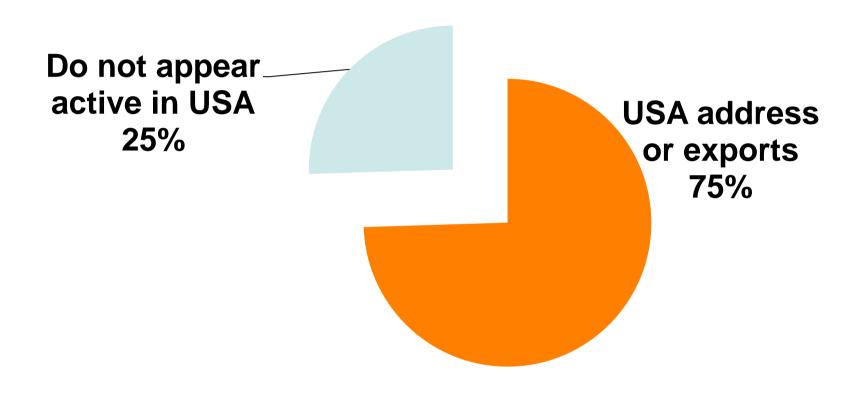


# Our site currently features 545 commercial construction products reported to be nano-enabled



www.nano.elcosh.org

## Three-quarters provide a U.S. address or export to U.S.



## Roughly 40% did not specify the composition

<b>Unspecified composition</b>	178	38.9%
nanofibers	1	0.2
nanomaterials	15	3.3
nanoparticles	76	16.6
Nanotechnology	70	15.3
nanotupes	1	0.2
photocatalytic materials	5	1.1
reference to 'nano'	10	2.2

Safety Data Sheets could not be confirmed for 55% of products

### What is the current state of hazard communication for nano?

Question 2

1 > 2

## Using an car analogy, it would be a Yugo in this exact color



Photo courtesy Wikimedia Commons

## A 2008 review of the literature showed significant problems

Nicol et al. 2008, Am. J. Ind Medicine

"While MSDSs are still considered to be a mainstay of worker health and safety...there are significant problems with their accuracy and completeness. As such, they may be failing workers as a prevention tool."

# MSDSs were indicated as the preferred method of obtaining EHS info by nanotech firms

Lindberg and Quinn, 2007

A Survey of EHS risk management among nanotechnology firm in the Massachusetts Region

## The new NIOSH REL for carbon nanotubes is 1 µg/m<sup>3</sup>

Section 1 Product Identification

Chemical Name: Carbon Fullerene

Formula: Carbon

Chemical Family: Synthetic Graphite

Synonyms: Carbon Nanotubes

CAS Number: 7782-42-5 (Graphite)

"Nuisance" dust standard for synthetic graphite:

15 mg/m<sup>3</sup> total

5 mg/m<sup>3</sup> resp

Section 2 Composition and Information on migreurents

Component Synthetic graphite % Up to 100% OSHA/PEL 15 mg/m<sup>3</sup> (total dust) 5 mg/m<sup>3</sup> (respirable fraction) ACGIH/TLV 2 mg/m<sup>3</sup> TWA

# Workers may be at risk of lung lesions exposed to SWCNTs 20 days at 5 mg/m<sup>3</sup>

Shvedova et al., Am. J. Physiol. Lung Cell Mol. Physiol. 2005

#### NewLook International, Inc. Graf-X WB™

Material Safety Data Sheet





#### Section 1 PRODUCT & COMPANY IDENTIFICATION

Product Names: Graf-X WB™ Permanent Anti-Graffiti Coating

Manufacturer's Name: NewLook International, Inc.

Manufacturer's Address: 1525 South Gladiola Street, Suite 8, Salt Lake City, UT 84104
Information Phone: NewLook International, Inc. 877.763.9566 or 801.886.9495

Emergency Contact: For Emergency information, contact Chemtel, Inc. at 800.255.3924, Outside the USA at 813.248.0585

#### Section 2 COMPOSITION & INFORMATION ON INGREDIENTS

CHEMICAL NAME	CAS Number	Weight % is less than	TLV-TWA	TLV-STEL	PEL-TWA	Skin Designation
Diethylene Glycol Monoethyl Ether	111-90-0	10.0% to 20%	No Info	No Info	No Info	Yes
Zinc Ammonium Carbonate Compound	38714-47-5	25% to 30%	No Info	No Info	No Info	No
Titanium Nano Drivers	13463-67-7	5% to 10%	No Info	No Info	No Info	No
Tributoxy Ethyl Phosphate	78-51-3	5% to 10%	No Info	No Info	No Info	Yes
Polymeric Hybrid Nano Particles	25586-24-7	1.0% to 3%	No Info	No Info	No Info	No
Plexi Acrylic Nano Fusion	9063-87-0	10% to 20%	No Info	No Info	No Info	No
Polycarbonate Nano Drivers	25037-45-0	15% to 25%	No Info	No Info	No Info	No
Hydrogen Hydroxide	7732-18-8	60% to 50%	No Info	No Info	No Info	No

#### **CHEMICAL NAME**

Diethylene Glycol Monoethyl Ether

Zinc Ammonium Carbonate Compound

Titanium Nano Drivers

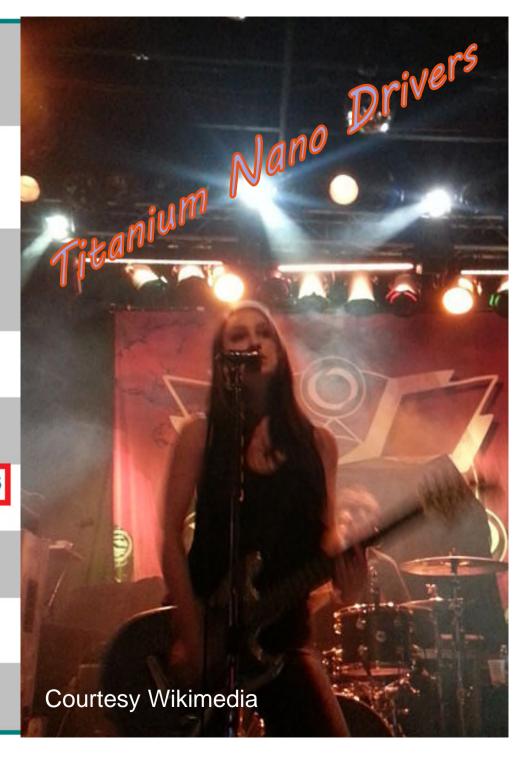
**Tributoxy Ethyl Phosphate** 

Polymeric Hybrid Nano Particles

Plexi Acrylic Nano Fusion

Polycarbonate Nano Drivers

**Hydrogen Hydroxide** 



## Safe Work Australia found SDSs lacking (2010)

- Nano metals, metal oxides, silicates and carbon nanotubes
- (84%) were "not sufficient to fulfill an appropriate risk assessment"

Many presented data for the bulk material

### 67% of SDSs NIOSH collected in 2010-2011 "still provided insufficient data for communicating the potential hazards of ENM."

Date collected	Satisfactory	In Need of Improvement	In Need of Significant Improvement
2007-2008, n = 32	7 (21.8%)	13 (40.6%)	12 (37.5%)
2010-2011, n = 21	7 (33.3%)	10 (47.6%)	4 (19.1%)
2007-2008, recollected in 2010- 2011, n = 23	4 (17.4%)	8 (34.8%)	11 (47.8%)

Eastlake, Hodson, Geraci and Crawford, J. Chem. H&S, Sept/Oct. 2012



## Nayar et al. looked at 200 SDSs from 89 suppliers

- 98 of chemicals were hazardous, 102 weren't (UK, COSHH regs 2002)
- Quality of SDS for hazardous was much lower
  - 46% had poor quality information
  - 1% had good quality

ISO has published a 2012 technical report for writing nano SDSs that is quite good and will be part of GHS!

**ISO/TR 13329** 

Nanomaterials: Preparation of Material Safety Data Sheet (MSDS)

## The ISO recommends a precautionary approach

Provide an SDS for nanomaterials and nanomaterial-containing products *regardless* of whether the material is classified as hazardous

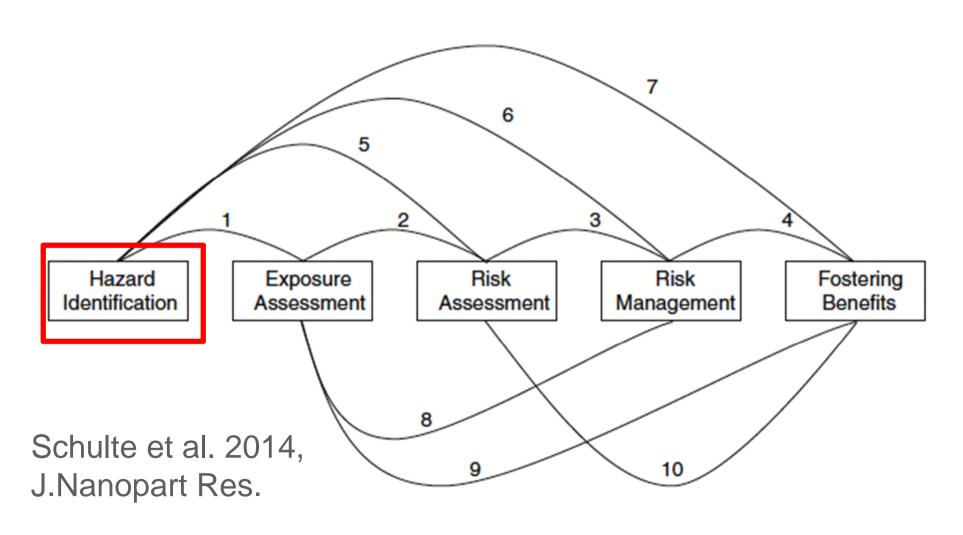


#### How informed are workers?

Question 3

1 2 3

# NIOSH's concept of responsible nanotechnology development hinges on hazard identification



### CPWR surveyed 79 workertrainers from 22 trades with an average of 30 years in the trade

(2013-2014)

Survey Respondent Characteristics	N	Mean	SD	Range
Years in trade	78	30.5	9.4	9-55
Years as a trainer	79	13.3	7.8	1-34

# Nearly half were not aware that nano had been applied to construction materials

	Yes	No
Aware that nanotechnology has been applied to construction materials?	41 (52%)	38 (48%)
Aware that construction products containing nanomaterials are commercially available in the USA?	38 (48%)	41 (52%)

# Only 3 out of 79 had heard of NIOSH's Nano RELs

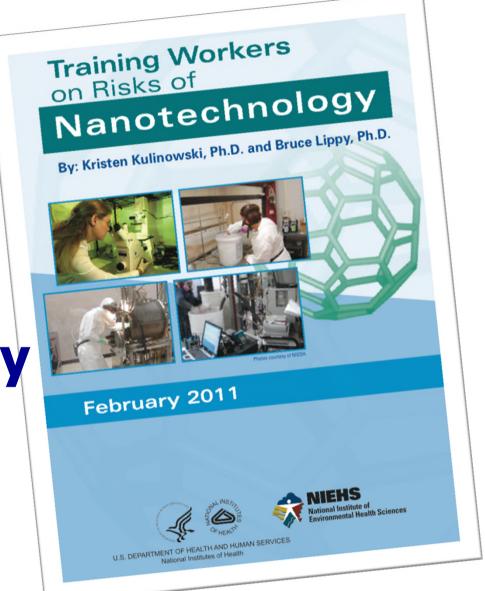
Nanomaterial	OEL (mg/m³)	Year
Titanium dioxide	0.3 ultrafine 2.4 fine	2011
CNTs and nanofibers	0.001	2013

# How should workers be trained about nanomaterials?

Question 4

1 2 3 4

NIEHS has the only guidance on training workers about nanotechnology risks



# The guidance identified possible exposures among specific populations

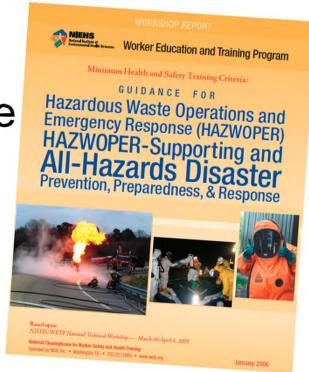
Worker Population	Type of Nanomaterial	Tasks
Stationary engineers	Nanosilver biocides	Adding biocides to cooling tower water and drip pans
Cleanup workers	Nanoparticles in hazardous waste	Performing cleanup of waste sites
Nurses and physicians	Nanosiliver in disinfectants	Preparing intravenous liquids

# The NIEHS guidance also provided:

- Suggested learning objectives for a nanomaterials course for workers
- 2. Outline for 8-hour HAZWOPER refresher
- Value of NIEHS Minimum Criteria in structuring nanoparticle training for workers

# The NIEHS WETP Minimum Criteria provides guidance on key elements of worker training

- Worker training principles
- Characteristics of excellence
- Program design and QC



Available at the National Clearinghouse for Worker S&H Training

# An 8-hour course is available for free at two locations

The GoodNanoGuide www.goodnanoguide.org





**OSHA Training Institute** 



Target audience was H&S professionals

## The course has a nano-SDS exercise we continue to use for union trainers

- 1. Is nano mentioned?
- 2. Is there any cautionary language?
- 3. Is the OEL for the parent material?

Machinists doing SDS exercise, Aug 2016





### Working with nano? What you need to know and who to talk to

1 dimension

In every workplace using nanomaterials, it's important to ensure appropriate risk evaluation for each nanomaterial used.

#### Help your safety representative answer these questions...

Are manufactured nanomaterials used in your workplace?



Your employer is legally required to provide information on the specific substance used, like titanium dioxide, nanosilver, carbon nanotubes, synthetic amorphous silica





What shape is the nanomaterial?

2 dimensions

3 dimensions

What chemical is it made of?

- Has your employer done a risk
   assessment on using the nanomaterial
   at your workplace?
  - Ask your employer for the Safety Data Sheet of the nanomaterial
  - ✓ Is the risk assessment complete?
  - What do you think is missing in the risk assessment?
  - Is the risk assessment useful to provide guidance on measures to prevent worker exposure



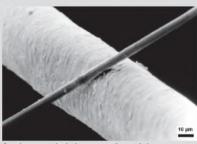
- 4 Could nanomaterials be released when you are working?
  - As a powder
  - As part of a solution or mixture
  - As part of a nano-enabled product (e.g. sawing, sanding, cutting, grinding or using a product containing nanomaterials)



#### What are Nanomaterials?

There are many kinds of nanomaterials, but they all share a remarkably small size (roughly 100,000 times thinner than a human hair). At this size, they can add new properties to many construction products.

Nanoparticles exist in nature and in man-made combustion sources, but this alert is about manufactured nanomaterials that are added to products. These products are called nano-enabled.



A carbon nanotube laying across a human hair эното овере митоминальна сомноматра из за доста, соврама изгала ост 2004 детими минятах

#### **PROTECT YOURSELF**

### Learn about nanomaterials in your trade

CPWR maintains a website called **eLCOSH Nano** that features over 450 products that
may be nano-enabled.



Construction products that may contain nanomaterials include:

- **▶** Coatings
- **Lubricants**
- Cements
- Adhesives
- ▶ Insulation
- Patching compounds

## NIOSH and CPWR have demonstrated that dust collection systems attached to tools will reduce the number of nanoparticles along with normal dust. Wet methods will work, too.



Worker with full protective gear conducting CPWR test inside a special chamber using a dust collection system

### **3** Wear a respirator

Testing shows that nanoparticles do **NOT** get through high efficiency respirator filters. Reduce dust first with a dust collection system or water. If dust levels are still high, use a respirator.

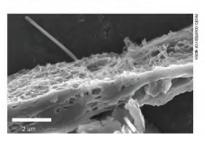


PHOTO COURTESY OF NORTH-HONEYWELL

#### What are the risks?

Some nanomaterials may be safe, but others have been shown to be toxic in the lab. Of particular concern are respiratory exposures to long, thin fibers, such as carbon nanotubes (CNTs). Certain types of CNTs cause lung problems in rodents, similar to asbestos. Nanoparticles don't seem to penetrate healthy skin but may get through damaged skin. Nanomaterials can be released from nano-enabled products, but the risks are not well understood.

The key is to limit exposure.



#### Are nanomaterials regulated?

OSHA does not have a regulation or Permissible Exposure Limit for any specific nanomaterial, but there are many existing OSHA standards, like the respirator standard, that would still apply.

NIOSH has set Recommended Exposure Limits for carbon nanotubes and nanosized titanium dioxide that employers should follow. EPA has reporting requirements for nanoparticles under TSCA.

#### Learn more

- OSHA Respiratory Protection Standard (29 CFR 1926.103); http://tinyurl.com/OSHA1926-103
- ▶ OSHA Nanotechnology: http://tinyurl.com/OSHAnano
- ► NIOSH Nanotechnology: http://tinyurl.com/NIOSHnano
- ▶ EPA TSCA Regulations for Nanoscale

#### If you think you are in danger:

Contact your supervisor.
Contact your union.
Call OSHA
1-800-321-6742

#### Find out more about construction hazards.

To receive copies of this Hazard Alert and cards on other topics

call 301-578-8500



8484 Georgia Avenue Suite 1000 Silver Spring, MD 20910 301-578-8500

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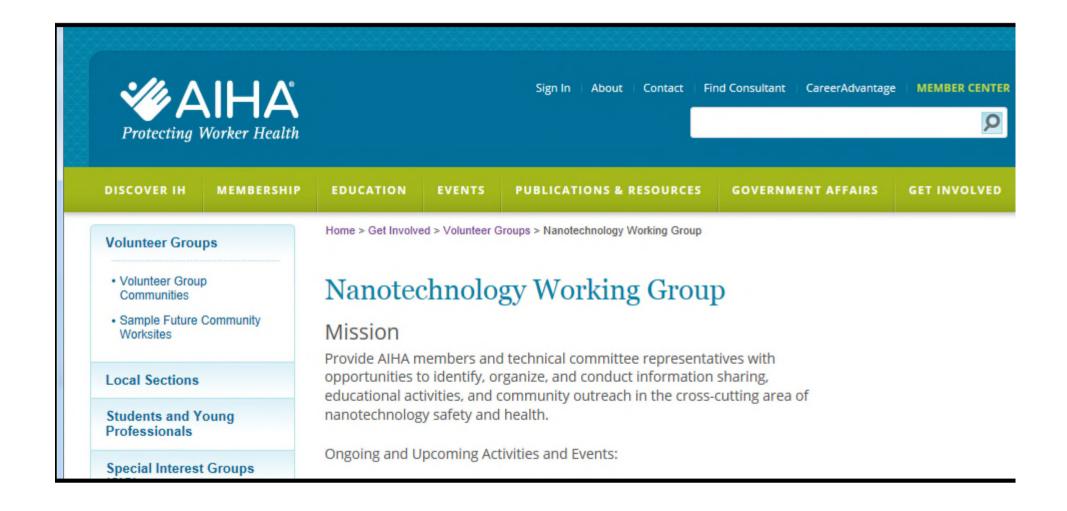
It is electronically available in Spanish



### What are the key messages for workers?

- 1. There are still questions about the health risks
- Exposures to ENPs in construction appear to be below OELs
- 3. Local exhaust ventilation can greatly reduce construction exposures, including to nano-objects
- 4. Respirators can capture ENPs
- 5. SDSs for nano products are inadequate and shouldn't be relied upon
- 6. NIOSH is your best source of info

## The AIHA Nanotechnology Working Group could be a valuable resource



### Thanks! Questions?

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http://www.elcosh.org

