

## Nanomaterials - a small issue with a big potential





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# European Chemical Industry Council - Cefic 🔯

- We are the forum and the voice of the chemical industry in Europe
- With a Brussels based office of 160 people we are working with over 4.000 industry experts across the chemical industry
- Cefic's membership entails around 29.000 companies (96% have less than 250 employees)
- Together they have a direct employment of nearly 1.2 million people and represents 29% of the world production of chemicals

Cefic represents the raw materials producers, of which some also provides finished products on the market
Using the ISO def, our membership produce less than 20 substances at the nano scale
Nanomaterial ≠ Nano products

## **Cefic Structure**



#### **Director General's Office**

#### **EU Policy Centre**

Communications

**Product Stewardship** 

**Industry Policy** 

Energy, EHS & Logistics

Legislation & Advocacy

**Research & Innovation** 

#### **Industry Sectors**

Halogens/EuroChlor

Petrochemistry

Plastics Europe

Fine, Specialty & Consumer Chemicals

Affiliated Associations

#### National Associations

## Make the connection!







#### **Product Stewardship structure** PC - Programme Council **Product Stewardship** Cross Ind. Platform SIG Product Stewardship & **Emerging Specific Issues Build Trust** Programme **Nanomaterials Cefic Sector** MT **Research and** Groups Innovation Programme Nano Experts TF

# Product Stewardship (PPS) and nano – not a small thing





# In the rear view mirror...



- Cefic strategy and action plan endorsed
- Tools for communication agreed
  - Key Messages
  - Responsible Care Guidance
     for Nanomaterials
  - Etc...
- Internal Project Team up and running
- Expert Taskforce established





# Cefic actions – Mandatory Reporting Schemes

The issue is driven by concerns about the products safety



- Positions agreed
  - No additional inventory. Instead work within existing horizontal regulatory framework (e. g. Cosmetic Directive), Product Safety Directive, REACH and CLP
- In addition, what questions will an inventory give answers to, when:
  - 1. Lack of definition
  - 2. Based on claims without validation
  - 3. Will not demonstrate safety
  - 4. Difference of opinions within MS and industry
- Further actions;
  - Cefic to become an observer in the project

### **Cefic's role in the RIP-oNs**





## **Research & Innovation**



# Strengthening the knowledge base

→ LRI projects, incl. societal acceptance of nanotechnologies

# Integrated strategy from research to deployment

→ High level group KET (final report 29 June)

# Defining future research & innovation needs

→ Active involvement of SusChem in NANOfutures steering committee

#### **Fostering dialogue**

→ Series of stakeholder roundtables on 'risk / benefits'(first successful event May 25, second planned December 2011)

# Key Enabling Technologies (KETs)



# Importance of KETs

- driving force of the development of future goods and services
- Being at the forefront of competitiveness, innovation, knowledge-based economy.
- modernisation of the industrial base and in the further strengthening of the research base
- creating related eco-systems of SMEs

 Knowledge intensive (high R&D and capital expenditure)

**Defining KETs** 

- Associated with highly-skilled employment
- Multi-disciplinary, cutting across many technology areas, converging
- Create multiplier effects
- Enabling process, good and service innovation and are of systemic relevance.





It is all about providing the right information to the right person at the right time whilst taking existing limitations into account.

- Emerging technologies have to be developed in a sustainable manner to be viable where communication is the most important tool
- Investments for future applications makes some information highly Confidential Business Information
- Organising and actively participating in dialogues
- Companies are increasingly publishing their toxicological test reports on their websites
- Voluntary programs to generate and increase information sharing, transparency and communication globally; GPS

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# **Communication – the next chapter**

#### Objectives

- Ensure balanced communication on risks and benefits (based on societal challenges)
- ✓ Show responsible care attitude

#### Key messages

- Nanotechnologies bring tangible **benefits to society** and the environment
- The development of nanotechnologies is essential for competitiveness and growth in Europe
- Nanomaterials can be effectively regulated by implementing and adapting the EU's comprehensive regulatory framework
- Safety is paramount: potential risks can be identified, assessed and controlled using the existing risk assessment paradigm
- Industry works with stakeholders across the value chain to ensure that citizens can enjoy the benefits in a safe and sustainable way







#### **Thanks for listening!**

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