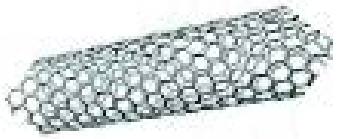
A Joint Workshop 2012



eu-us
bridging nanoEHS research efforts

25-26 OCTOBER 2012, HELSINKI, FINLAND

Risk Management and Control

Workshop Report

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- Objectives of the session
  - CoR speakers
  - Review and refine the goals and objectives of the CoR with attendees
  - Establish focus for the next steps of the CoR6 interaction process
  - Identify specific topics for upcoming web interaction meetings of CoR6 participants

Scope of CoR-6: Risk Mananagement and Controls - Vision

•engage scientists and nanosafety professionals in identifying and sharing methodologies, control strategies and demonstrated effective solutions for the common purpose of reducing and preventing adverse health, safety and environmental exposures to nanomaterials. Through participation in active exchange of interested and knowledgeable scientists and professionals, identify or develop best practices that can be widely shared. Also, the CoR will identify specific research needs to improve risk management decision-making where gaps are found in the fundamental risk management variables.

Objectives of CoR-6:

- identify strategies to address and manage potential nanosafety-related risks
- standardize a range of approaches to better inform and understand potential risk factors
- integrate approaches into an effective risk management and control schema

Process

- Identify and incorporate relevant risk characterization information, hazard identification, exposure science, and risk modeling and methods into the safety evaluation of nanomaterials
- Understand, characterize, and control workplace exposure to nanomaterials; apply effective concepts and learning to other environments?
- Integrate risk and exposure assessments into decision-making frameworks for risk management, including possible regulatory activity
- Integrate and standardize risk communication within the risk management framework

CoR-6 Focus

- Engage EU and US scientists and practicing nanosafety professionals in identifying and sharing methodologies, control strategies and demonstrated effective solutions for reducing and preventing adverse health, safety and environmental exposures to nanomaterials.
- Create an active exchange of interested and knowledgeable scientists and nanosafety professionals
- Identify and share best practices for exposure controls
- Where gaps in fundamental risk management variables are found, identify specific research needs to improve risk management decision-making

Workplan for CoR-6:

- Expand list of individuals interested in CoR-6
- Identify three major priority areas for follow up
- Identify and engage individuals involved with research/practice in specified priority areas
- Convene two follow up on-line meetings to focus on one of the three top identified priorities (prior to March 2013)
- Report on outcomes of on-line meetings
- Promote and maintain currency with www.US-EU.org as the means of CoR-6 communication and records

Discussion

- Does existing vision statement adequately reflect purpose, goals and objectives for CoR-6?
- Identify priority issues that the CoR should focus on relative to nanosafety risk management and control?
- Gaps: What information/data is needed, but not currently available, to be able to better manage and control nanomaterials risk?
- Prioritize the top three major information gap areas
- Identify research and information needed to address these gaps – and CoRs involved with research issues

Recommendations and conclusions

- Dialogue on US-EU framework/procedures on identifying, sharing best practice in occupational setting. (Also intelligent test strategies and intelligent risk management).
- Share information on high risk occupational situations – to expand into wider areas later.
- Expand stakeholder / interdisciplinary expertise.
- Listing of expertise of CoR members and activity solicit new members.

Top major information gap areas

- Lack of information on the environmental areas.
- Good practise in Occup areas – what is ALAR (especially in pilot scale-up).
- What is the most appropriate method for control (better understanding and use of hazard and control banding)

Identify ongoing issues that the CoR should focus on relative to nanosafety risk management and control?

- Regulation of NMs on functionality not as chemicals (e.g. fibres)?
- Safer by design / practice (e.g. supply/use of materials in liquid state).
- To improve data management and collection for risk management and regulatory purposes.
- How do we better identify and define realistic exposure scenarios (enabled, polymer embedded, nano-enabled and agglomerates).

Better communication

- List expertise
- Mutual areas of CoR
  - Containment and control
  - Decision analysis – expert basis
- Identify / map exposure and release scenarios where we have problems on applicability and effectiveness
- Calendar of events

Agreed future actions and timeline

- Identifying individuals involved with research in specified priority areas and list experience
- Convene two follow up conference calls (webEx) prior to March 2013 with focus on one of the three top identified priorities?
- Report on outcomes of on-line meetings
- Promote and maintain currency with www.US-EU.org as means of CoR-6 communication