

# International Standards Supporting Nanotechnology Development

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*On behalf of ISO TC229 (Nanotechnologies)*

# What are Standards

- Different types of standards
- Focus on documentary standards for this discussion
- ISO/IEC definition (*emphasis added*): document, established by consensus and approved by a recognized body, that provides, for common and repeated use, rules, guidelines or characteristics for activities or their results, aimed at the achievement of the optimum degree of order in a given context

*NOTE Standards should be based on the consolidated results of science, technology and experience, and aimed at the promotion of optimum community benefits.*

[ISO/IEC Guide 2:2004, definition 3.2]

# Standards Matter



Courtesy: [www.treehugger.com](http://www.treehugger.com)

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International Symposium on Assessing the  
Impact of Nanotechnology

# Standards Matter

- Common language for communication
- Enable protection of health, safety and environment
- Reflect state of technology
- Foundation for technological innovation
- Enable economies of scale



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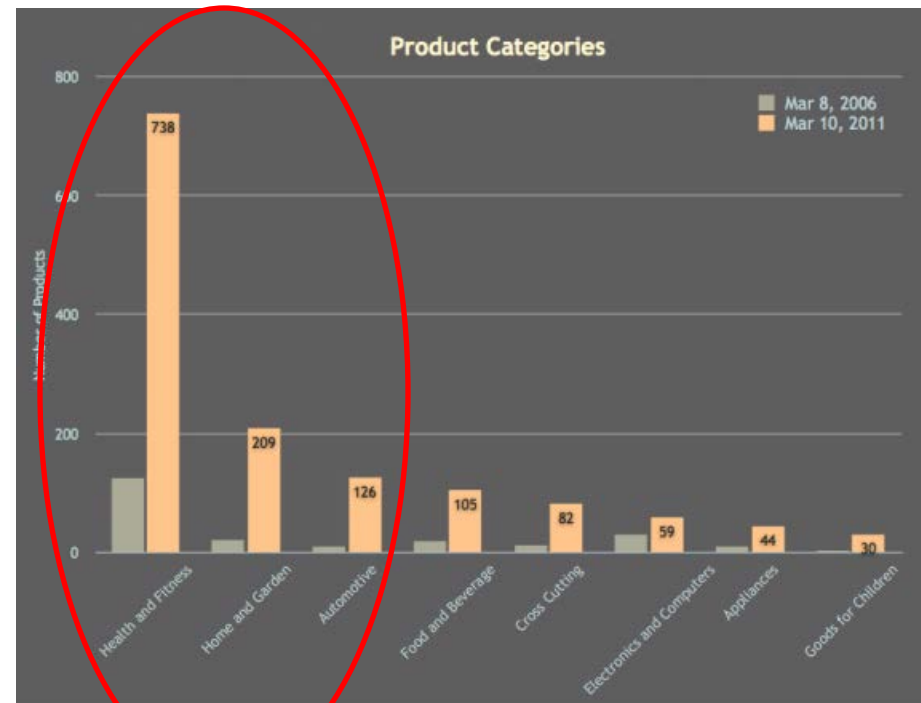
Courtesy: www.axeleration.com



Courtesy: www.boeingcapital.com

# Growing ubiquity

- According to The Project on Emerging Nanotechnologies ([http://www.nanotechproject.org/inventories/consumer/analysis\\_draft/](http://www.nanotechproject.org/inventories/consumer/analysis_draft/)):
  - 1300+ nano- based/containing products (as of March, 2011)
  - Categories:
    - 738 in Health and Fitness
    - 209 in Home and Garden
    - 126 in Automotive
    - 105 in Food and Beverages
    - 82 in cross-cutting applications
    - 59 in Electronics and Computers
    - 44 in Appliances
    - 30 in Goods for Children



# Nanotechnology and Standards

## *Benefits:*



- Address important questions – e.g., is it safe, what to measure, how to measure?
- B-2-B efficiencies
- Supports technology development
- Enables product innovation
- Help with regulatory compliance

## *Challenges:*

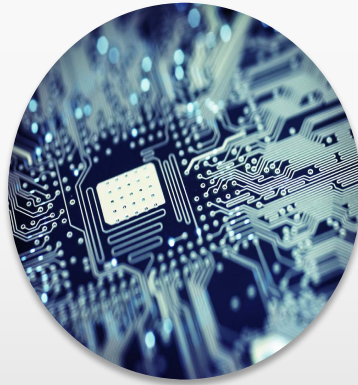


- Right time to standardize?
- Prioritization
- Competing user demand
- Availability of robust underlying data
- Availability of skill and expertise

# Impact of Nanotechnology Standardization



Trade



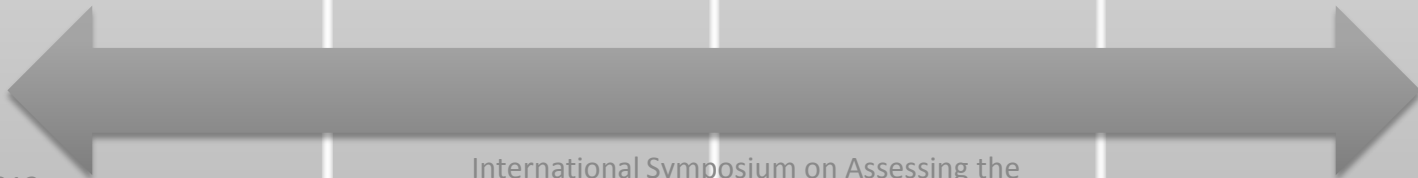
Technology



Innovation



Competition



# Drivers for Nanotechnology Standardization

Ubiquity of nanotechnology and nanotechnology enabled products

- Are they safe
- Consumer confidence
- Regulations – use of standards can ease implementation and compliance

Trade: projections of 100s of millions - billions of dollars of global trade in nanotechnology

Innovation: new products/applications requiring new measurement techniques



# Nanotechnology Standardization

## Activities within ISO TC229

- International Organization for Standardization (ISO) Technical Committee 229 – locus for nanotech focused standards development within ISO.
- 34 participating countries, 10 observing countries
- Broad scope reflected in liaisons with 23 other ISO TCs, IEC TC 113, and 9 external organizations, including OECD

# Nanotechnology Standardization In ISO TC229

Chairman's Advisory  
Group

ISO TC229  
Chair & Secretariat: UK

Nanotechnologies  
Liaison Coordination  
Group

Nanotechnology  
and Sustainability  
TaskGroup (USA)

Consumer and  
Societal Dimensions  
TaskGroup (USA)

## Standards Development

**JWG1**  
Terminology and  
Nomenclature  
(Canada)  
*Joint with IEC  
TC113*

**JWG2**  
Measurement and  
Characterization  
(Japan)  
*Joint with IEC  
TC113*

**WG3** Health,  
Safety and  
Environment  
(USA)

**WG4** Product  
Specification  
(China)

# Nanotechnology Standardization Focus

## Terminology

- “What do you call it”

## Measurement

- “How you measure it”

## EHS

- “What effect it may have on health and environment”

## Specification

- “What needs to be measured”

# Impact of ISO TC229 Standardization

## Enable Collaboration

- Industrial interests
- Across nations
- Unique partnerships with the international scientific community

## Support for regulatory aspects

- Dialog with regulators to identify their needs and respond
- Partnership with OECD-WPMN

# NIST-ANSI Workshop on Increased Nanotechnology Standards Use

Dec. 13 and 14, 2011

**Goal:** Better understanding of issues impacting broader use and update of nanotechnology standards

## **Objectives:**

- Nanotechnology standards and needs?
- Factors inhibiting broader use of nanotech standards?
- Solutions to address impediments to broader use of nanotech standards

# NIST-ANSI Workshop on Increased Nanotechnology Standards Use

## Standards developer perspectives:

- Variety of standards developers involved
- Active and robust processes for nanotech standards development
- Multiple mechanisms for seeking input
- Various drivers – industry, government mandates, etc.
- Very high level of awareness about importance and need

# NIST-ANSI Workshop on Increased Nanotechnology Standards Use

## Challenges:

- Early stage of technology development
  - Absence of established and validated measurement and characterization equipment and protocols
  - Knowledge gaps about EHS impacts of exposure to nanomaterials
  - Participants limited knowledge of standards development processes
- Cross-cutting nature of technology
- Limited participation by manufacturers
- Communication and alignment due to involvement of multiple SDOs
- Availability of expertise

# NIST-ANSI Workshop on Increased Nanotechnology Standards Use

## Industry perspectives on standards use

- Consistency in communication and reduce misunderstanding
- Facilitates communications between scientific disciplines
- Improved comparability and validation of data
- Support and safeguard EHS aspects



# NIST-ANSI Workshop on Increased Nanotechnology Standards Use

## Standards needs and challenges

- More measurement standards – broader range of nanomaterials
- Essential property information using economical methods and instruments
- Lack of broader industrial participation
- Increased regulator participation in standards development
- Availability of expertise

# NIST-ANSI Workshop on Increased Nanotechnology Standards Use

## Gov. and Regulator perspectives

- Standards important role in meeting mission
- Existing and evolving policy frameworks
- Synergies between different priorities
- Participation in standards development
- Standards use depends upon specificity, broadly applicable standards often not useful or feasible for regulatory purposes

# NIST-ANSI Workshop on Increased Nanotechnology Standards Use

## Needs and challenges

- Greater specificity (specific to individual types of nanomaterials) in standards is desired
- Larger matrix of data
- Development and validation of risk assessment approaches to estimate potential health effects
- Gaps in developing test methods and standards
- Information and awareness

# NIST-ANSI Workshop on Increased Nanotechnology Standards Use

## Participant perspectives:

- Pressing need for underlying R&D and validated methods
- Higher prioritization of societal and regulatory needs
- Greater funding to support standardization activities
- Increased outreach to ensure industry and government is aware of standardization activities

# Conclusions

- Important role of standards in spurring nanotechnology development and innovation
- Great progress in standards development work, but important questions and issues remain
- Opportunities for improving understanding of role of standards and standardization
- Need greater community involvement in nanotech standards development and use

# Additional Information

ISO TC229 ([www.iso.org](http://www.iso.org))

<http://bit.ly/QTNcd>

- Chairman of ISO TC229: Simon Holland (UK) [simon.j.holland@gsk.com](mailto:simon.j.holland@gsk.com)
- Secretary of ISO TC229: David Hyde (UK) [david.hyde@bsi-global.com](mailto:david.hyde@bsi-global.com)

NIST-ANSI workshop

<http://gsi.nist.gov/global/index.cfm/L1-8/L2-33/A-598>

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