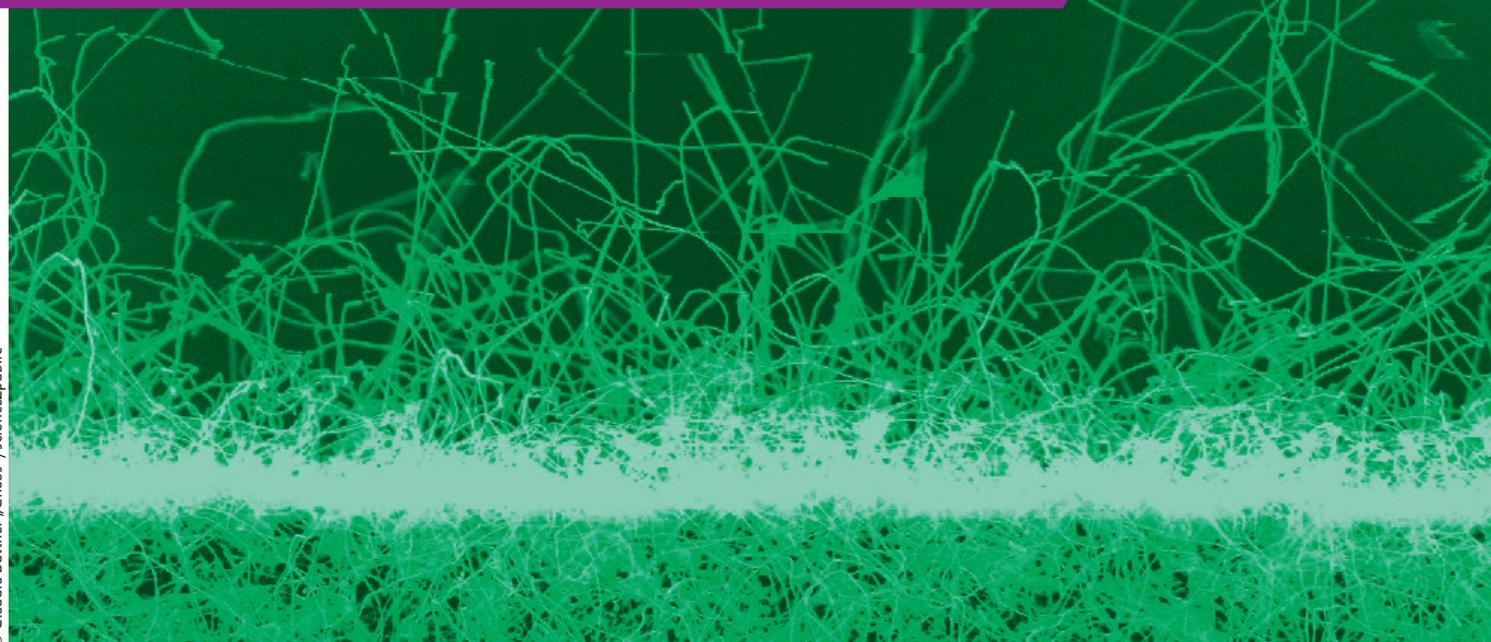


# Responsible Handling of Nanotechnology at Evonik

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## Introduction

Evonik Industries is one of the world leaders in specialty chemicals. Research and development play a major role in securing Evonik's sustainability. We regard nanotechnology as a key technology of high commercial relevance due to its general importance in a variety of production processes and products and its wide application spectrum in chemistry.

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**Evonik. Power to create.**

## Opportunities

By exploiting the opportunities that nanotechnology offers and handling it responsibly, we develop new businesses while supporting sustainable development. Nanotechnology contributes toward the development of new products and efficient, resource-conserving solutions for our customers; it also makes major contributions to environmental and climate protection, health, and product quality.

## Responsibility and management

Protection of the health of employees, neighbors, and customers and a responsible approach to resources and the environment are integral to Evonik's business. As with all of our other products, we produce and market nanomaterials only if the latest available research shows they can be manufactured and applied in a safe and environmentally compatible manner. In this, Evonik follows the international principles of Responsible Care®. We achieve safety and environmental protection by means of verifiable management systems.

## Risk management and product responsibility

In the manufacture of nanomaterials we provide the maximum possible protection for people and the environment. For producing and handling these materials we use additional technical precautions such as filters, extraction systems, and, if necessary, personal protective equipment. Regular measurement of particulates in the workplace and routine medical check-ups ensure that these measures are effective.

Product safety is extremely carefully checked using the latest scientific findings. We use for this purpose a chemicals management system, as defined under the EU's REACH chemicals regulation, which allows Evonik to conduct a risk assessment of its products. Our measures for the protection of employees, customers, and users handling nanomaterials are based on the results of scientific research on hazard and risk assessment as well as epidemiological and toxicological studies. We also support the establishment of new investigation methods tailored to the specific effects of nanomaterials, which allow more accurate risk assessment. In this effort we work closely with leading research institutions and participate in public research projects at the national and international level.

## Open information and dialog

We engage in open dialog on the opportunities and risks of applied nanotechnology. In keeping with this commitment, Evonik freely provides information on the nanomaterials it produces and uses, and shoulders its share of responsibilities in the value chain. The minimum requirements here are defined by the guidelines of the Responsible Care Global Charter, the EU's REACH chemicals regulation, and our obligations under the Global Product Strategy (GPS) of the International Council of Chemical Associations (ICCA). This involves communicating openly within the product chain and providing the public with easily comprehensible information.

Evonik is also committed to making nanotechnology issues transparent to the general public, and participates in dialog events and panel discussions with users, environmental associations, local authorities, and international bodies.