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Building a Nanoparticle Information Library

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A web-based Nanoparticle Information Library (NIL) has been developed to organize and share information on nanomaterials and their associated properties. The NIL initiative is intended to meet the global needs of researchers, industrial users, and occupational health professionals and includes data such as material properties, origin/synthesis methods and information for contacting people who are developing nanomaterials. Users have the option to submit data for inclusion in the database, and it is expected to become part of a global hub for sharing information. As the world inventory of nanomaterials increases, it is also providing a mechanism for cataloging new materials and facilitating the integration of that information with other data sources such as surveillance and toxicology studies of nanomaterials. The NIL also provides a snapshot of global activities to optimally keep pace with the rapid developments in this expanding field. It is expected to positively impact the course of future research, especially in regards to the health and safety of workers. A prototype version of the NIL is currently running and a range of national and international partners who are collaborating on the format and content of the NIL. Additional information about the NIOSH Nanomaterial Information Library can be found at <http://www.cdc.gov/niosh/topics/nanotech/NIL.html/>.

(The findings and conclusions of this abstract have not been formally disseminated by the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health and should not be construed to represent any agency determination or policy.)

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