

Newsflash of the Innovation Society, St.Gallen
Edition May 2016

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the
innovation
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May 2016

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Welcome to our May newsletter!

Among other things, in this newsletter you learn more about the following topics:

- What was discussed at the 10th International Nano-Authorities-Dialogue in Bern?
- Where can you learn more about safe handling on nanomaterials?
- How do nanoparticles help growing sustainable food crops?

Enjoy the reading and kind regards,

Christoph Meili & Nathalie Vonrüti

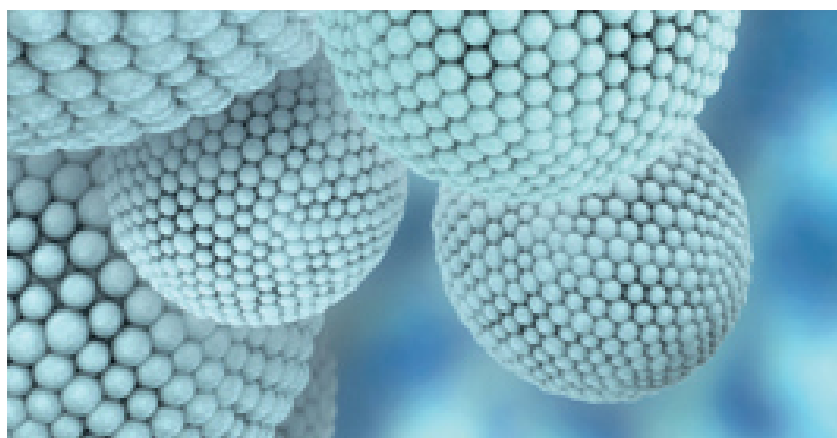
Regulation of Nanomaterials at the 10th International Nano-Authorities-Dialogue in Bern (CH)



The 10th International Nano-Authorities-Dialogue took place on May 18 and 19, 2016, at the invitation of the Swiss Federal Office for the Environment (FOEN). More than 50 representatives of ministries, agencies, research institutes and companies from Germany, Austria, Switzerland, Liechtenstein and Luxembourg addressed the topic "governance and regulation of nanomaterials". Diverse introductory presentations inspired discussions about the requirements and the need for future regulation of nanomaterials from different perspectives. The expectations of the industry towards regulatory authorities were identified and measures for a common proceeding for a sustainable development of nanotechnologies were discussed. The annual Nano-Authorities-Dialogue takes place on a rotational basis in the German speaking countries and is organised by The Innovation Society, St.Gallen.

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Seminar about safe handling on nanomaterials



IAG Dresden and the Innovation Society offer a seminar about the safe handling on nanomaterials from the 26th – 28th September. The seminar is hold in German.

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Civil society demands action, not words, on nanotechnology



NGOs, consumer groups and research organisations are disappointed with the European Commission's continuing failure to propose adequate measures for the collection and publication of information about nanomaterials on the EU market.

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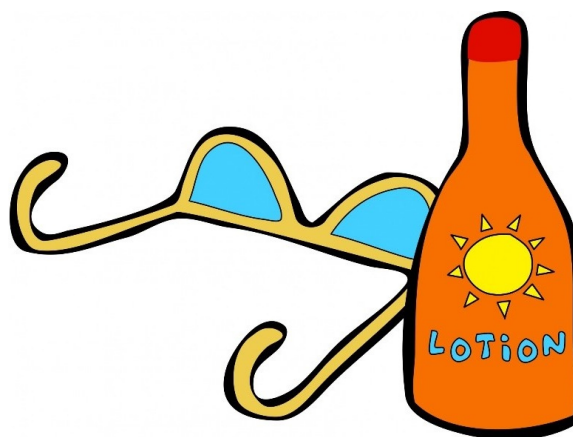
Nanoparticles present a sustainable way to grow food crops



Scientists are working diligently now to prepare for the expected increase in global population — and therefore an increased need for food production— in the upcoming decades. A team of engineers at Washington University in St. Louis has found a sustainable way to boost the growth of a protein-rich bean by improving the way it absorbs much-needed nutrients.

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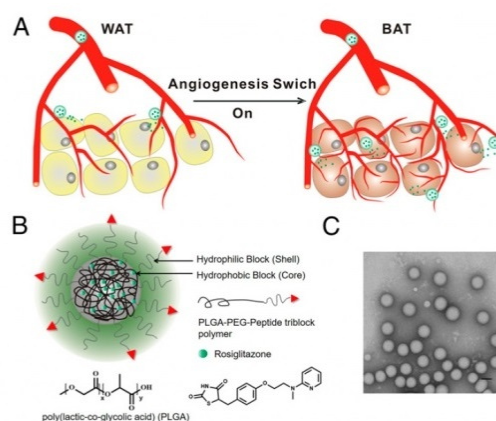
Approval of zinc oxide in cosmetics



Zinc oxide has been approved by the EU for its use in cosmetics. After the approval of titanium oxide in February 2016, Zinc oxide is the second nanodimensional UV-filter, which has been approved by the EU Cosmetics Regulations. Zinc oxide is used to reduce the amount of ultraviolet light penetrating into the skin by reflecting radiation into heat. It will be allowed as UV-filters as long as its concentration does not exceed 25 percent and it is not applied in such a way that it could be inhaled by the end-user.

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Fat-eating nanoparticles



Researchers at MIT and Brigham and Women's Hospital have developed nanoparticles that can deliver antiobesity drugs directly to fat tissue. Overweight mice treated with these nanoparticles lost 10 percent of their body weight over 25 days, without showing any negative side effects.

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How nanoparticles flow through the environment



Carbon nanotubes remain attached to materials for years while titanium dioxide and nanozinc are rapidly washed out of cosmetics and accumulate in the ground. Researchers from the National Research Programme 'Opportunities and Risks of Nanomaterials' (NRP 64) have developed a new model to track the flow of the most important nanomaterials in the environment.

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The Innovation Society and the "Nanorama Loft" on TV



The television channel RTS reports on nanoparticles in food and consumer goods. They show a brief interview with Christoph Meili of the Innovation Society and present the Nanorama Loft.

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