



# Working with nano?

## What you need to know and who to talk to

In every workplace using nanomaterials, it's important to ensure appropriate risk evaluation for *each* nanomaterial used.

Help your safety representative answer these questions...

### 1 Are manufactured nanomaterials used in your workplace?



Your employer is legally required to provide information on the specific substance used, like: titanium dioxide, nanosilver, carbon nanotubes, synthetic amorphous silica



### 2 What shape is the nanomaterial? What chemical is it made of?



1 dimension



2 dimensions



3 dimensions



### 3 Has your employer done a risk assessment on using the nanomaterial at your workplace?



Ask your employer for the Safety Data Sheet of the nanomaterial



Is the risk assessment complete?



What do you think is missing in the risk assessment?



Is the risk assessment useful to provide guidance on measures to prevent worker exposure



### 4 Could nanomaterials be released when you are working?



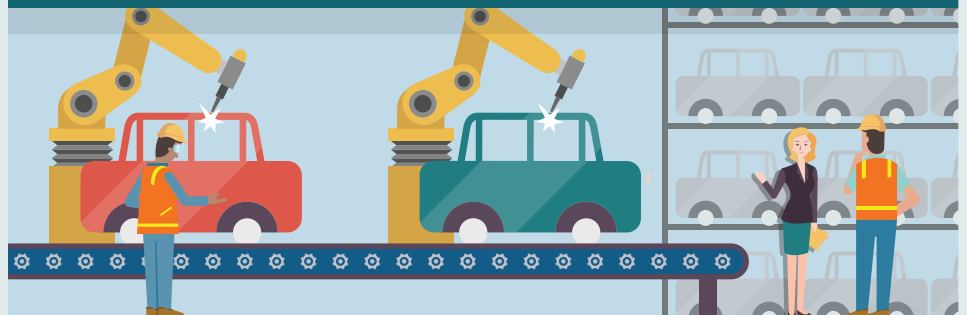
As a powder



As part of a solution or mixture



As part of a nano-enabled product (e.g. sawing, sanding, cutting, grinding or using a product containing nanomaterials)



### 5 What activities do you perform?



How long are you exposed to the nanomaterial?



How are the nanomaterials stored?



How do you dispose of the nanomaterials?



### 6 What protective measures have been put in place?



Enclosed systems



Local exhaust ventilation



Personal protective equipment respiratory equipment



### 7 Has your employer introduced a medical surveillance system?



A worker exposure registry?



Regular medical check-ups or analysing medical visits to identify health trends?



## Further union action



Share your information with the Trade Union Nano Information Network ([nano@etui.org](mailto:nano@etui.org))



Get more information from national and European union structures and the European Trade Union Institute (<http://www.etui.org/Topics/Health-Safety/Nanotechnologies>)



Continue dialogue with your employer to ensure the highest level of worker health and safety protection, and the appropriate use of new technologies (document this dialogue)



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