



Work Package 5, Health, Safety and Environment

Observatory Summary:
Observatoire des Micro et Nanotechnologies
[Observatory of Micro and Nanotechnologies] (OMNT)

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French observatory: the Observatory of Micro and Nanotechnologies (OMNT)

The Observatory of Micro and Nano Technologies (OMNT) is a joint unit between the CEA and the CNRS which are two French public research organisations. It was created in 2005 in order to precociously detect weak signals heralding rupture, by carrying out continuous strategic watch (both scientific and economic) on key topics of micro and nanotechnology. OMNT publishes its work through different level of analysis, answering the requests of various stakeholders through written documents and workshops.



Fig. 1: Example OMNT reports and workshops

The strategic watch is performed at a worldwide level, analyses are carried out by a network of 235 experienced scientific experts supplemented by marketing experts. Scientific experts come from various French public research organizations: CEA, CNRS, Universities, "Grandes Ecoles"... They cover a broad spectrum of scientific skills: biology, chemistry, optics, micro-electronics, energetic, physics, materials, etc. They meet 4 or 5 times per year in order to exchange their point of view on the evolutions of the fields and in order to release a report summarising the results of the discussions. Thanks to experts meetings, OMNT is also able to release annual reports, annual workshop and specialised workshops.



Fig. 2: Various products based on OMNT expert meetings

The Observatory of Micro and Nano Technologies manage 10 experts groups dealing with 10 different key topics of the field of micro and nanotechnologies, outlined in Figure 3.

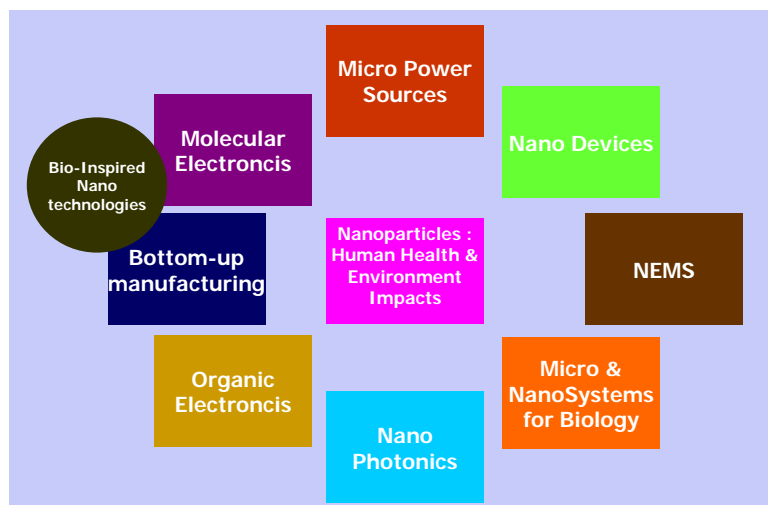


Fig. 3: The 10 Key topics within micro- and nanotechnologies covered by OMNT

Results of OMNT are disseminated for free to those experts involved, and to the hierarchy of CEA and CNRS. For others, they are accessible via purchase of an annual subscription.