



LATEST NEWS

Nanogate stands for safety and quality

Göttelborn, Germany, 22 October 2009. The safety of its products and applications is the top priority for Nanogate AG. The responsible handling of nanomaterials is an ethos firmly anchored in the company. All Nanogate products are comprehensively tested and are therefore harmless. In this regard Nanogate cooperates with numerous renowned institutes.

Nanogate CEO Ralf Zastrau: "Nanogate has been intensively involved for ten years now in furthering the responsible handling of nanomaterials. The company is one of the forerunners in implementing nanotechnologies that are safe for the consumer. Product safety has top priority for Nanogate. The application of our products is evaluated using extensive tests and this ensures the safety of our customers."

Manifold tests beyond what is merely required by law are already carried out at this point in order to protect the user. To this end, Nanogate works together closely with renowned, independent testing institutes, institutions and laboratories such as the Fraunhofer-Gesellschaft, the TÜV (German Technical Inspection Agency) and many others in order to achieve maximum product safety. Strictly documented production processes ensure Nanogate can provide the highest level of production quality and production safety.

Certified quality

Back in 2000 Nanogate was the first nanotechnology company in Germany to be certified in accordance with ISO 9001:2000, and the quality management system has seen continuous further development since then. Additional voluntary quality checks, as well as audited processes and procedures by industry partners, likewise form a part of the comprehensive policy that ensures quality. Furthermore, a certification for environmental management in accordance with ISO DIN 14001:2004 was issued in January 2007. Nanogate's environmental



management is the basis on which, for example, raw materials that are marked for use are tested to determine their impact on the environment. Products are subjected to a check that encompasses their entire life cycle – from production, storage, and processing through to application and recycling – in order to identify and avoid any possible dangers.

The nanomaterials used at Nanogate are processed in liquid form and are essentially integrated into what is known as a binder matrix. The binding matrix here is generally a type of lacquer. This means that no individual nanoparticles can be released at any point in the product cycle. All tests currently available worldwide provide clear confirmation: no potential risk arises with nanomaterials that are integrated into a cured surface coating.

Since the company was founded, Nanogate has focussed on comprehensive, preventative risk management in the handling of nanomaterials. Beyond this, the company is entirely committed to the transparent presentation of information, data and processes relevant to nanotechnology. It is for this purpose that the company is involved with industry organisations as well as the Nano-Commission for the Implementation of Integrated Safety and Risk Research initiated by the German Federal Government. At the same time, Nanogate is closely involved in research programmes (e.g. Nanosafe) as well as in the direct implementation of the latest findings of global safety research.

*Further information is available from the forumnano initiative:
www.forumnano.org*

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**Innovation-driven competitive advantage:**

This is the guiding motto Nanogate AG is using as it confronts the current economic challenges and opens up new growth prospects for its clients. To achieve this, Nanogate AG has stepped up its efforts and increased its funding significantly and will be presenting a multitude of innovations in the current financial year. Since going public the company has invested millions in developing new technology platforms and has transformed these into marketable products. Nanogate has successfully illustrated its expertise in more than 150 cases, using innovation to offer its clients added value and a competitive advantage.

Nanogate AG:

Nanogate is a leading international enabler in the nanotechnology growth market and so opens the gate to this technology for its customers. The firm, which is based in Göttelborn (Saarland), enables the programming and integration of additional properties such as non-stick, anti-bacterial, anti-corrosive and ultra-low friction. Nanogate thereby gains a competitive edge for its customers by product refinement using chemical nanotechnology. Nanogate covers a wide range of industries, functions and substrates already on the basis of technology platforms. The company thus provides a decisive interface for the commercialisation of chemical nanotechnology, bridges the gap between raw materials and their industrial conversion into products and concentrates as an enabler on one of the most attractive segments in the industry. As a partner in innovation, Nanogate provides many services along the value chain – from development and production of innovative nanocomposites and nanostructured materials to powerful support for innovation and product integration.

The Nanogate Group currently has 84 employees in all (as of September 2009) and since commencing operations in 1999 has been a pioneer in nanotechnology. Nanogate is a high-growth company and has operated profitably since financial year 2004. In financial year 2007 it boosted consolidated sales by almost 17 % to around EUR 12.2 million. The earnings before taxes (EBT, according to IFRS) amounted to around EUR 1.1 million. The company has first-class customer references (e.g. ABB, BSH Bosch-Siemens Haushaltsgeräte, Kärcher and Koenig & Bauer AG) and many years' experience of different industries and applications. It has also entered into strategic cooperation with international companies such as Dow Corning. The Group's consolidation entity includes Nanogate Advanced Materials GmbH, which specialises in complex applications like high-performance optics, FNP GmbH in the area of sport/leisure and a majority shareholding in Holmenkol AG.

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