

Novel Technology Risk Assessment

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Definition

A determination of the risks to human health and the environment posed by, for example contamination at a site or emissions pollution from novel incineration. Risks are calculated using exposure factors, which provide numerical values for "exposures", such as ingestion of arsenic or inhalation of benzene. Risk Assessments may be conducted before technological developments are implemented or after industrial accidents site cleanup occurs; may look at risks to people, plants or animals; and may calculate risk as a specific value (point estimate) or a range of values (distribution)¹.

Current Applications

Nanotechnology Risk Assessment

Definition

Many research networks and expert discussion groups have generated lengthy debates surrounding the precise definition of nanoscience. For the purposes of LidsterCorp, the broadest definition of nanoscience is appropriate if only to prevent potentially useful nanoscale developments from being excluded.

Under this premise, nanoscience is primarily the extension of existing sciences into the realms of the extremely small (nanomaterials, nanochemistry, nanobio, nanophysics, etc.) while nanoengineering represents the extension of the engineering fields into the nanoscale realm (nanofabrication, nanodevices, etc.)² Nanotechnology simply refers to the commercialisation of such technologies.

¹ <http://www.deq.state.or.us/wmc/cleanup/glossary.htm>

² http://www.genomicglossaries.com/content/instrument_tech.asp

Our staff are currently involved with two separate European, publicly-funded research projects (www.impart-nanotox.org) with the primary objective of assessing optimal application and associated risk management associated with the introduction of novel nanotechnologies, materials and nano-engineered processes to the commercial sector.

Regulation

Summary Regulations

- [Panorama](#)
- [Action programmes](#)
- [Cancer](#)
- [Communicable diseases](#)
- [Other diseases](#)
- [Protection measures](#)
- [Health and food](#)

Legal Texts

- Treaty establishing the European Community ([Article 152](#))
- [Legislation in force](#)
- Legislation in preparation and monitoring of the decision-making process between institutions
 - [Search in the Legislative Observatory of the European Parliament](#)
 - [Search in the Public Register of the Council of the European Union](#)
 - [Search in PreLex](#)
 - [Opinions of the European Economic and Social Committee](#)
 - [Opinions of the Committee of the Regions](#)
- [Recent case-law of the Court of Justice and the Court of First Instance](#)

General Provisions

- [Improving the health of workers \(framework Directive\)](#)
- [Communication on the practical implementation of directives on health and safety at work](#)
- [Community strategy on health and safety at work \(2002-2006\)](#)
- [European agency for health and safety at work](#)
- [European foundation for the improvement of living and working conditions](#)
- [Advisory Committee on Safety and Health at Work](#)
- [European schedule of occupational diseases](#)
- [Organising working time with a view to protecting the health and safety of workers](#)

Equipment, Signs and Loads

- [Use of work equipment](#)
- [Use of personal protective equipment](#)
- [Work with display screen equipment](#)
- [Provision of health and safety signs at work](#)
- [Manual handling of loads involving risk](#)

Protection of Specific Groups of Workers

- [Protection of self-employed workers](#)
- [Protection of temporary workers](#)
- [Protection of young people at work](#)
- [Protection of pregnant women, women who have recently given birth and women who are breastfeeding](#)

The Workplace

- [Minimum safety and health requirements for the workplace](#)
- [Temporary and mobile work sites](#)
- [Extractive industries by means of boreholes](#)
- [Extractive industries in the surface and underground](#)
- [Equipment and protective systems intended for use in potentially explosive atmospheres](#)
- [Fishing vessels](#)
- [Improved medical assistance on board vessels](#)

Chemical, Physical and Biological Agents

- [Exposure to electromagnetic fields](#)
- [Exposure to noise](#)
- [Exposure to mechanical vibration](#)
- [Risk of explosive atmospheres](#)
- [Exposure to chemical agents](#)
- [Dangers arising from ionising radiation](#)
- [Exposure to carcinogens and mutagens](#)
- [Exposure to biological agents](#)
- [Exposure to asbestos](#)

Additional information: [Public health](#)

Resources

Commission

- [Public Health](#)
- [Food Safety](#)
- [Consumer Affairs](#)
- [Grants](#)

European Parliament

- [Committee on the Environment, Public Health and Food Safety](#)

Council of the European Union

- [Employment, Social Policy, Health and Consumer Affairs](#)
- [The European Ombudsman](#)
- [European Foundation for the Improvement of Living and Working Conditions](#)
- [European Agency for Safety and Health at Work](#)
- [European Food Safety Authority](#)
- [European Medicines Agency](#)

Documentation

- [Press releases](#)
- [Bulletin of the European Union](#)
- [General Report on the Activities of the European Union](#)
- [Publications](#)
- [Statistics](#)