>> The NIOSH Nanotechnology Research Center focuses its research on hazard prevention strategies and guidance for nanotechnology and advanced material safety in the workplace. One of the research efforts of the Center is the Carbon Nanotube Registry. The carbon nanotube registry is a database of workers employed in carbon nanotube industries. The registry can be used to study long term health effects because scientists will see if any workers in the industry have higher risks of disease than other workers or the general population.

>> Only companies are being recruited for this study and not individual workers. When a company decides to participate in the registry, NIOSH researchers will coordinate with company representatives to securely transfer workplace personnel records to a NIOSH database.

>> NIOSH will use these records to understand how long employees have been working with carbon nanotubes and to follow employees over time. The results of health studies based on the exposure registry will be published in the scientific literature. Before the results are published. Companies will have an opportunity to review the material. NIOSH does not publish company names or information that could be used to identify companies. No individually identifiable worker information will be published, and all results are de-identified and summarized.

>> Participating companies can view these reports before they are published to make sure company information is not identified. Additionally, NIOSH follows strict federal guidelines for protecting electronic records of individuals. Information collected on both the company and individual level will be kept in accordance with federal privacy laws. Companies that take part will be offered a free assessment to identify and understand exposures. Each participating company will receive a detailed report that describes if and to what extent exposures are occurring in their workplace. The report will also offer recommendations on how to reduce exposures if they exist. Your company's participation is very important. Contributing to the study will improve NIOSH's understanding of any health risks associated with carbon nanotubes. Understanding these risks are an important step in protecting workers.