

P R E S S R E L E A S E

Wednesday, March 16th, 2011**LNE chairs European Committee for Standardization
TC 352 – Nanotechnologies**

On 24 February 2011, Jean-Marc Aublant, Delegate for European Affairs and Standardization at LNE, was elected chairman of the European Committee for Standardization's Technical Committee for Nanotechnologies (TC 352). A member of the committee since its formation, Jean-Marc Aublant also leads a European Commission strategy group entrusted with defining a normative programme to establish European regulations in this field.

The standardization committee comprises some 40 members representing over 10 countries and numerous NGOs. Its working groups are focusing on three aspects:

- metrology, with the development of measurement and characterization protocols
- protection of humans and the environment from exposure to nanomaterials and nanoparticles
- industry, with the development of product specification standards for manufacturers, importers and users of nanomanufactured products.

The programme for the next three years covers the publication of 45 normative documents, 29 of which will be handled by the three working groups.

The standards drawn up by the first two groups – under European Commission mandate M461 – will enable national and European regulatory authorities to set exposure thresholds to be respected by the EU Member States.

LNE is of course actively involved in this ambitious programme, as it is one of the leading research bodies in the nanotechnologies field. Among the European research projects in which LNE participates are those concerning measurements of nanomagnetic materials (Nanospin), development of roughness standards (Nanoref), study of the impact of nanoparticles on fire behaviour (Nanofeu), determination of the effects on health of nanoparticles in aerosol suspension (Nanoaerosols), development of biosensors to record the behaviour of molecules over time (for monitoring of patients or water quality), and preparation of a platform for characterizing nano-objects (at LNE's Trappes site).

The Laboratoire National de Métrologie et d'Essais (LNE) is a state-owned enterprise with 790 staff. It provides expert services to all companies and bodies concerned with product quality and safety. LNE's five core activities are research, calibration and consulting in metrology, testing and analysis, certification, and training.

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