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Beyond the Chemistry Web

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Beyond the Chemistry Web ...

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This month's column is all about nanomaterials, from pure science and commercial applications to the social issues of health, safety, and the environment.

Science of Nanomaterials

nanowebtech.org supplements the new Institute of Physics journal *Nanotechnology*. Except for articles from *Nanotechnology*, this multidisciplinary site is free after you create a user profile. The strength of this site is news, articles, and products that support research.
http://nanotechweb.org/cws/home

Sponsored by the Network for Computational Nanotechnology, **nanoHUB** provides teaching and simulation tools for the nanosciences, nanoelectronics, nano electrical-mechanical systems (NEMS) and their application to nano-biosystems. The simulation tools are free but require registration. This is a good site to find educational materials.
http://www.nanohub.org

Nanowerk offers the nanomaterials database with 900 products from 130 suppliers. But it also provides information such as Nanowerk Spotlight (a daily nanoscience article), news feeds, and nanotechnology resources such as nanoLinks (a directory of academic and commercial organizations), events calendar, report library, video library, periodical directory, and a section for "neat stuff."
http://www.nanowerk.com

Nanoforum.org is a portal for nanotechnology -related news, events, organizations, publications, and resources. Although this site is aimed at the European community, information about nanotechnology crosses national boundaries. A nifty feature is the ability to narrow topics like news, organizations, and events to fifteen sub-categories such as Chemistry & Materials, Safety & Environment, Consumer Products, and Society Issues.
http://www.nanoforum.org

The **National Nanotechnology Initiative** (NNI) coordinates the research and development of nanotechnology sponsored by U.S. agencies. Its topics include science, health, the environment, economic benefits, grants, and public policy. The range, depth, and currency of this site are uneven, but it is worth a visit.
http://www.nano.gov

Health, Safety, & Environment Issues of Nanomaterials

Supported by the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH), the **NIOSH Nanotechnology: Nanoparticle Information Library** offers a databank on nanoparticle properties, news, and links to other nanotechnology resources.
http://www2a.cdc.gov/niosh-nil/index.asp

A cooperative effort of industry, academics, governments and non-government organizations, the goal of the **International Council on Nanotechnology (ICON)** is to "develop and communicate information regarding potential environmental and health risks of nanotechnology ... while maximizing societal benefit."
http://icon.rice.edu/index.cfm

The Illinois Institute of Technology's **Center on Nanotechnology and Society**, at Chicago-Kent College of Law, focuses on the social aspects of nanotechnology: ethics, law, public policy, and business. Includes links to similar organizations.
http://www.nano-and-society.org/

For an overview of the risks and benefits of nanotechnology, visit the **Center for Responsible Nanotechnology**.
http://www.crnano.org

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