

Press release for the 2nd NanoForce Working Table on the 16.5.2013



The 2nd NanoForce working table was held as part of the "10th Nanotechnology Forum Hestia: From Technology to Innovation" ("10. Nanotechnologieforum Hessen: Von der Technologie zur Innovation", organised by the Hessian Ministry for Economics). It was moderated by Dr. Jörg Klein (Project Leader RnD at Chemie-Cluster Bayern GmbH) and featured three participants who brought different perspectives on commercialisation of nanotechnology to the discussion.

Dr. Steffi Friedrichs (Managing Director, Nanotechnologies Industries Association NIA) talked about her role as a convenor of communication and connecting activities between public authorities, industry and the public; she pointed out that dynamics were changing; in particular, the recently started activities in market intelligence reflected the shift from risk to opportunity in the field.

Marco Beckmann (CEO, Nanostart AG) offered his perspective on the venture capital (VC) scene in nanotechnology and the associated risks and opportunities for investors. In his eyes, the safety assessment of new technologies is a key criterion for investors. Also the currently difficult situation in the venture capital market is judged as good opportunity to get extraordinarily attractive deals.

Dr. Christoph Steinbach (Chair of the Nanotechnology Working Group, Dechema e.V.) pictured his view on safety-research in the field of nanotechnology. Surprisingly, studies show that nanotechnology is rated more positively by the broad public as it is perceived by some companies. In that respect, a stronger commitment of the companies to nanotechnologies ranks top on his wish list for the future.

The interesting combination of representatives from industries association, investor and from knowledge disseminating entities shed light on the processes that encourage or inhibit investments in nanotechnologies. This informative and entertaining event was a success for the audience as well as the NanoForce project.