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# Nanomaterials in Army RDT&E

Suveen Mathaudhu, Ph.D.  
Materials Engineer  
Army Research Laboratory



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48<sup>th</sup> Navy and Marine Corps Public Health  
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Hampton Roads Convention Center,  
Hampton, VA  
26 March 2009

Heidi E. Maupin, P.E.  
Technical Coordinating Officer  
Army Research Laboratory  
Adam Rawlett, Ph.D.  
Team Lead, Materials Design  
and Synthesis  
Army Research Laboratory

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“What would happen if we could arrange the atoms one by one the way we want them...?”

- Richard Feynman, “There’s Plenty of Room at the Bottom”, 1959



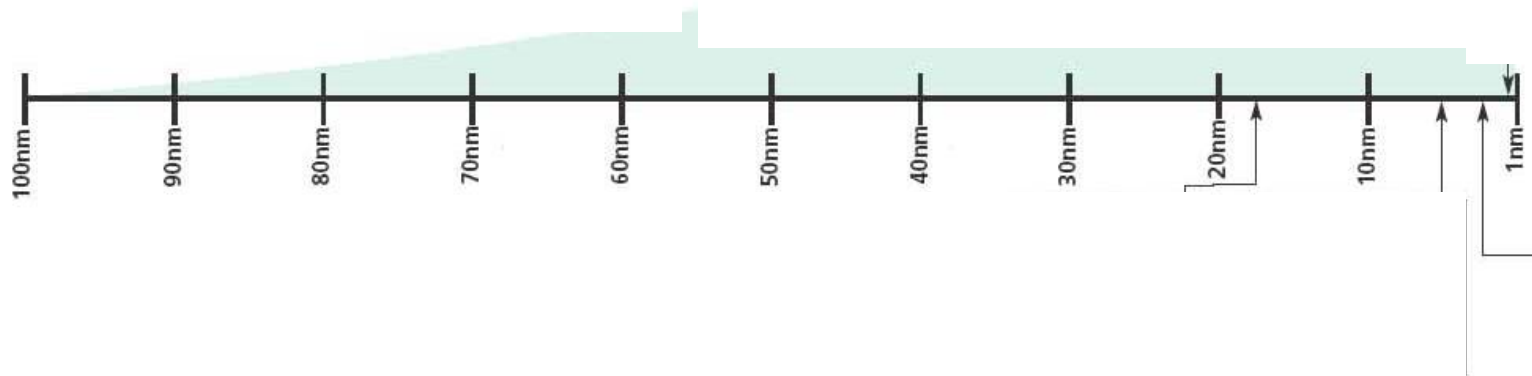
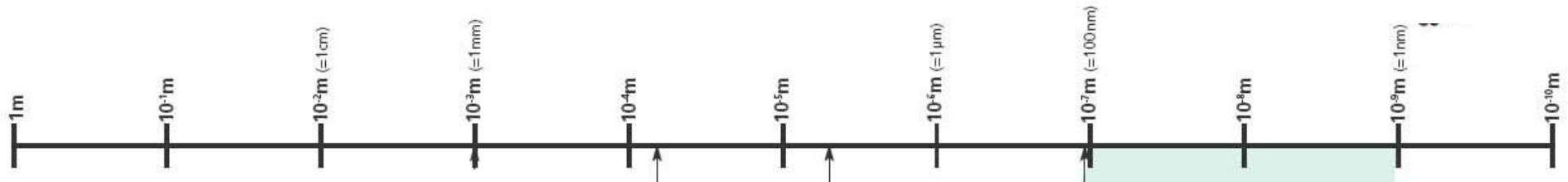
# Taxonomy (ASTM)



- **nano, n**—(1) The SI definition, a prefix used to form decimal submultiples of the SI unit “meter”, designating a factor of  $10^{-9}$  denoted by the symbol “n”. (2) Pertaining to things on a scale of approximately 1 to 100 nanometers (nm). (3) A prefix referring to an activity, material, process or device that pertains to a field of knowledge defined by nanotechnology and nanoscience.
- **nanoscale**, adj—having one or more dimensions from approximately 1 to 100 nanometers (nm).
- **nanoparticle**, n—in nanotechnology, a sub-classification of ultrafine particle with lengths in two or three dimensions greater than 0.001 micrometer (1 nanometer) and smaller than about 0.1 micrometer (100 nanometers) and which may or may not exhibit a size-related intensive property.  
DISCUSSION—This term is a subject of controversy regarding the size range and the presence of a size-related property. Current usage emphasizes size and not properties in the definition. The length scale may be a hydrodynamic diameter or a geometric length appropriate to the intended use of the nanoparticle.
- **nanostructured**, adj—containing physically or chemically distinguishable components, at least one of which is nanoscale in one or more dimensions.  
DISCUSSION—While many conventional nanomaterials are distinguished by physical or chemical characteristics, biological recognition may also be the basis for defining a nanostructure. Though this concept is formally contained by the word ‘chemically’ such a feature would lead to a distinctive type of nanostructured system.



# How Big is One Nanometer -- Length Scale?



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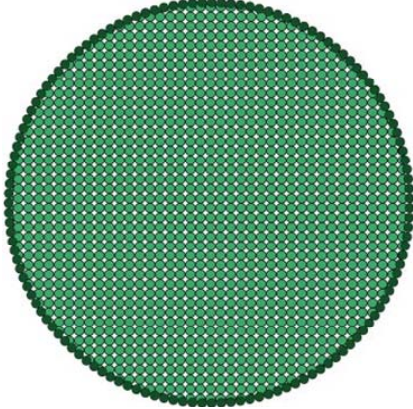
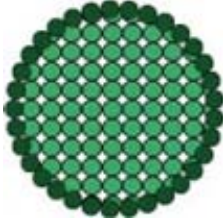
Courtesy of The Royal Society & The Royal Academy of Engineering



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# Physical Properties Change: Melting Point of a Substance



	<b>At the macroscale</b>	<b>At the nanoscale</b>
The majority of the atoms are...	...almost all on the inside of the object 	...split between the inside and the surface of the object 
Changing an object's size...	...has a very small effect on the percentage of atoms on the surface	...has a big effect on the percentage of atoms on the surface
The melting point...	...doesn't depend on size	... is lower for smaller particles



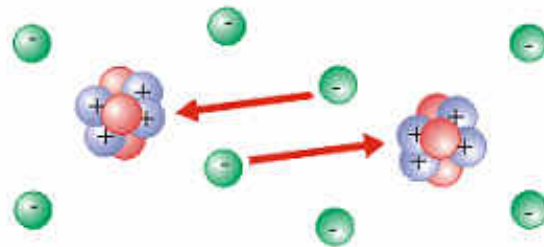
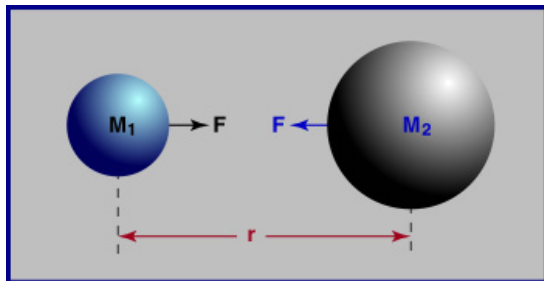
# Why Do Properties Change?



- Four important ways in which nanoscale materials may differ from macroscale materials
  - Gravitational forces become negligible and electromagnetic forces dominate
  - Quantum mechanics is the model used to describe motion and energy instead of the classical mechanics model
  - Greater surface to volume ratios
  - Random molecular motion becomes more important



- Because the mass of nanoscale objects is so small, gravity becomes negligible



- Gravitational force is a function of **mass** and distance and is weak between (low-mass) nanosized particles
- Electromagnetic force is a function of **charge** and distance, is not affected by mass, so it can be very strong even when we have nanosized particles
- The electromagnetic force between two protons is  $10^{36}$  times stronger than the gravitational force!



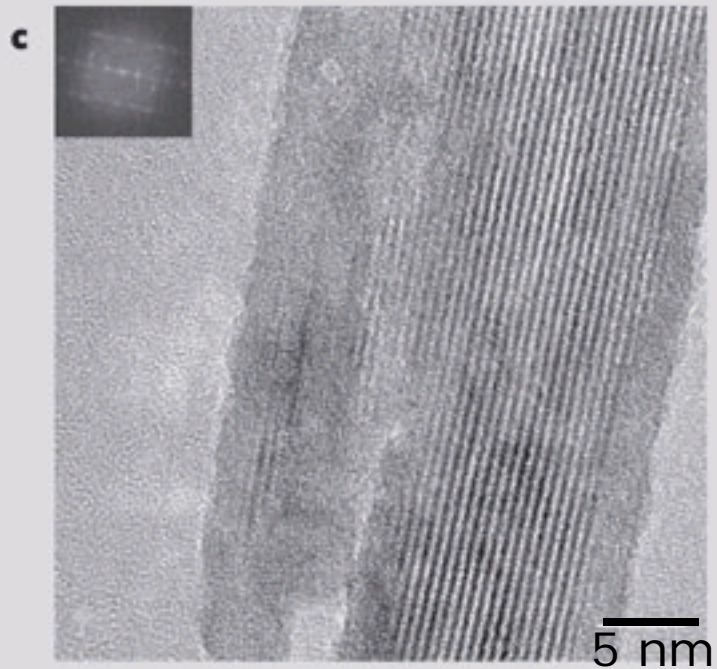


# Are Nanomaterials really new?



During the middle ages, the people who fought crusaders with swords of Damascus steel had a high-tech edge - carbon nanotubes and nanowires in their sabres.

Damascus sabres were forged from Indian steel called *wootz*. It is likely that the sophisticated process of forging and annealing the steel formed the nanotubes and the nanowires, and could explain the amazing mechanical properties of the swords



TEM image of cementite nanowires

*Nature*, vol 444, p 286





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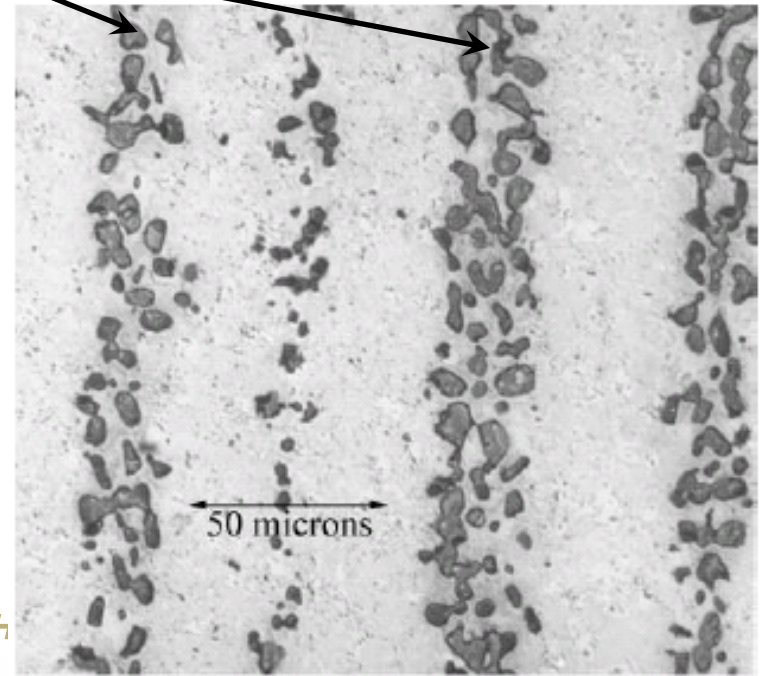
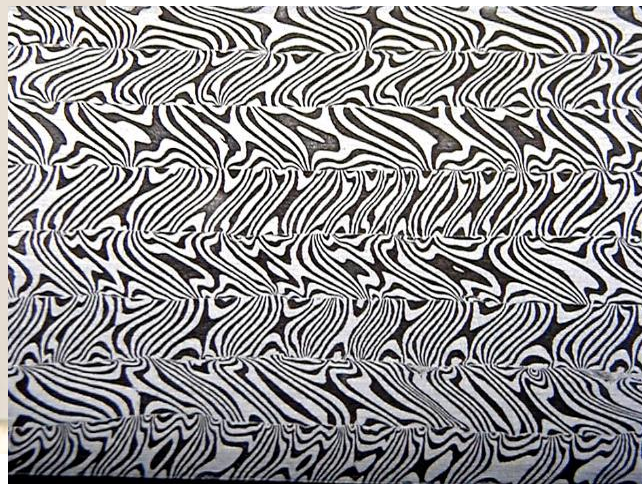
# Damascus Steel



Damascus blade showing the Damascene surface pattern containing a combined Mohammed ladder and rose pattern

<http://www.tms.org/pubs/journals/JOM/9809/Verhoeven-9809.html>

Cementite bands



TECH



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# Are Nanomaterials really new?



<http://www.thebritishmuseum.ac.uk/science/lycurguscup/lycurgus-p1.html>

- Lycurgus cup, 4th century AD (now at the British Museum, London).
- Depicts King Lycurgus of Thrace being dragged to the underworld
- When illuminated from outside, it appears green. However, when illuminated from within the cup, it glows red.

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<http://www.physics.usyd.edu.au/pdfs/current/2005projects/LaurieField.pdf>



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# Are Nanomaterials really new?



[http://edoc.ub.uni-muenchen.de/2367/1/Soennichsen\\_Carsten.pdf](http://edoc.ub.uni-muenchen.de/2367/1/Soennichsen_Carsten.pdf)

Lycurgus cup, 4th century AD (now at the British Museum, London). The colors originate from metal nanoparticles embedded in the glass. At places, where light is transmitted through the glass it appears red, at places where light is scattered near the surface, the scattered light appears greenish.

a)



[http://edoc.ub.uni-muenchen.de/2367/1/Soennichsen\\_Carsten.pdf](http://edoc.ub.uni-muenchen.de/2367/1/Soennichsen_Carsten.pdf)

Suspensions of spherical gold particles with various diameters (150, 100, 80, 60, 40, 20 nm from left to right) in water. The difference in colors is due to different scattering and absorption behaviour of small and large gold particles.

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# Nanomaterials Now



**Display Screens**  
Motorola (NTs)



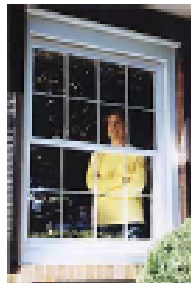
**Cars - Humvee**  
GM (Nanocomposites)



**Nano SilverSeal Refrigerator**  
Samsung (nanoparticle-coated)



**Tennis Rackets**  
Wilson (C fibers)



SunClean self-cleaning windows  
(Photocatalytic coating)

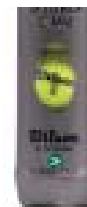


**Nano-Care fabric**  
wrinkle-resistant, stain-repellent  
(Eddie Bauer, Lee, Old Navy, Tiger Woods, Bass, Nike)



**LAUFEN**  
Laufen Mylife floor-standing bidet with Wondergliss  
(Superhydrophobic coating)

**Clay nanocomposite barrier coating**



**Superhydrophobic nanoscale coating applied to fabric**

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This slide is adapted from the presentation posted at [www.toxicology.org/isot/rc/allghen/Savage2006SOTRegional.ppt](http://www.toxicology.org/isot/rc/allghen/Savage2006SOTRegional.ppt)  
This slide is adapted from the presentation posted at



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# Nanotechnology in the Future?



Tiny machines in  
your body curing  
cancer?

<http://smalley.rice.edu/emplibrary/SA285-76.pdf>

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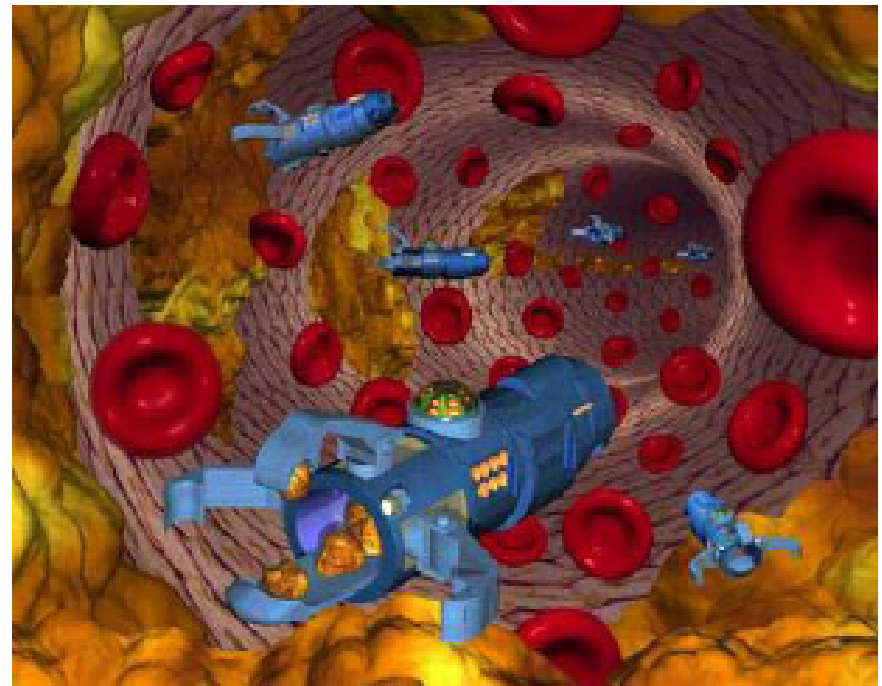
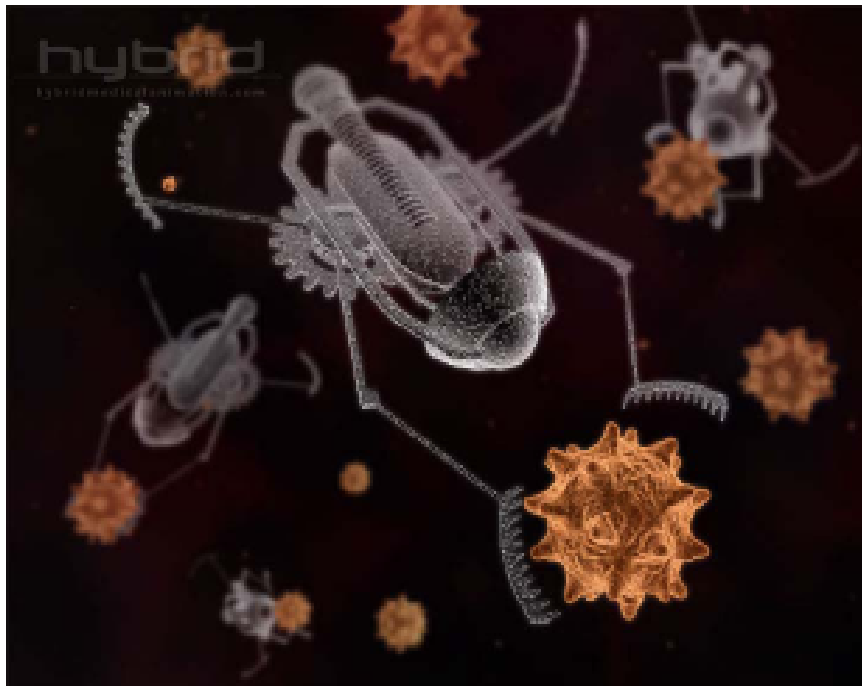
This slide is adapted from the lecture notes posted at  
[http://www.physics.unc.edu/~falvo/Phys006D\\_Fall07/](http://www.physics.unc.edu/~falvo/Phys006D_Fall07/)



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# Injectable Nanobots?







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# The Space Elevator?

Ultra high strength materials allow tower to be built into space !(?)

Check out [www.liftport.com](http://www.liftport.com) and <http://www.spaceelevator.com/docs/General.SE.presentation.ppt>

**TECHNOLOGY DRIVEN WARFIGHTER FOCUSED**

This slide is adapted from the lecture notes posted at [http://www.physics.unc.edu/~falvo/Phys006D\\_Fall07/](http://www.physics.unc.edu/~falvo/Phys006D_Fall07/)



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# Nanotechnology according to Hollywood



Nanotechnology Scientist:  
Willem Dafoe in Spiderman



Created by Nanotechnology:  
The Hulk

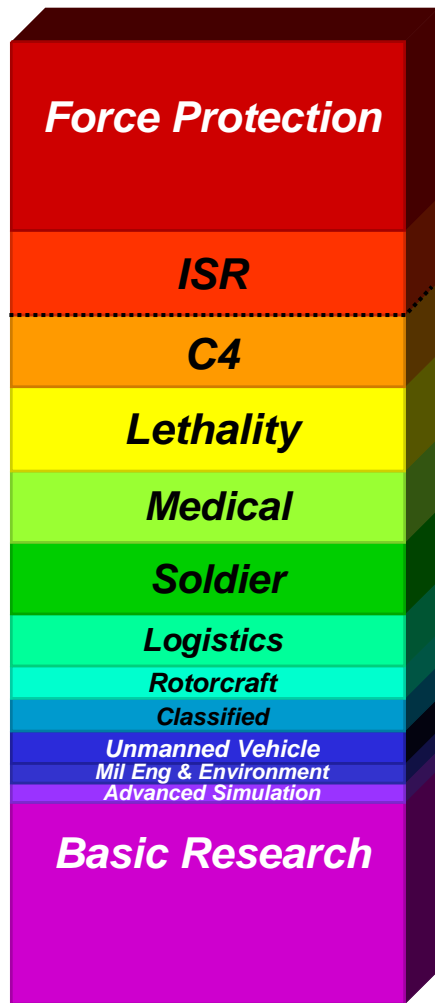
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This slide is adapted from the lecture notes posted at  
<http://www.nanohub.org/courses/nanomaterials>

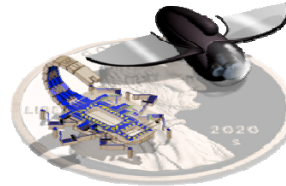


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# Nanotechnology will have profound impact on the future of the Army



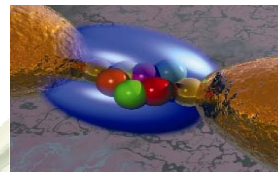
**Protection**



**Robotics**



**Energetics**



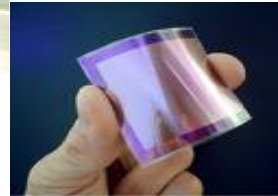
**Electronics**



**Adaptive**



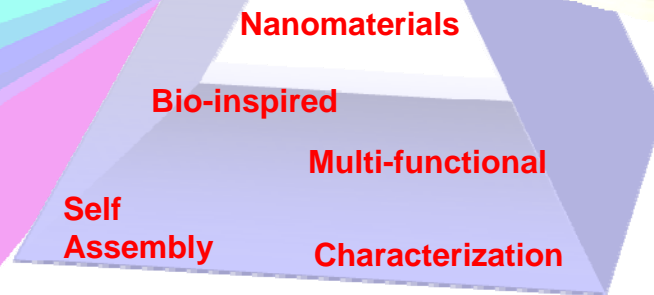
**Photonics**



**Power**



**Lethality**



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U.S. Army Research Laboratory



## Mission

Provide innovative science, technology, and analyses to enable full spectrum operations.

## Vision

America's Laboratory for the Army: Many Minds, Many Capabilities, Single Focus on the Soldier

**A**cknowledged Scientific, Technical and Analytical Excellence

**R**ecognized bridge between the Nation's Scientific and Technical Communities and the Army

**L**eadership in providing innovative solutions for the current and future Army



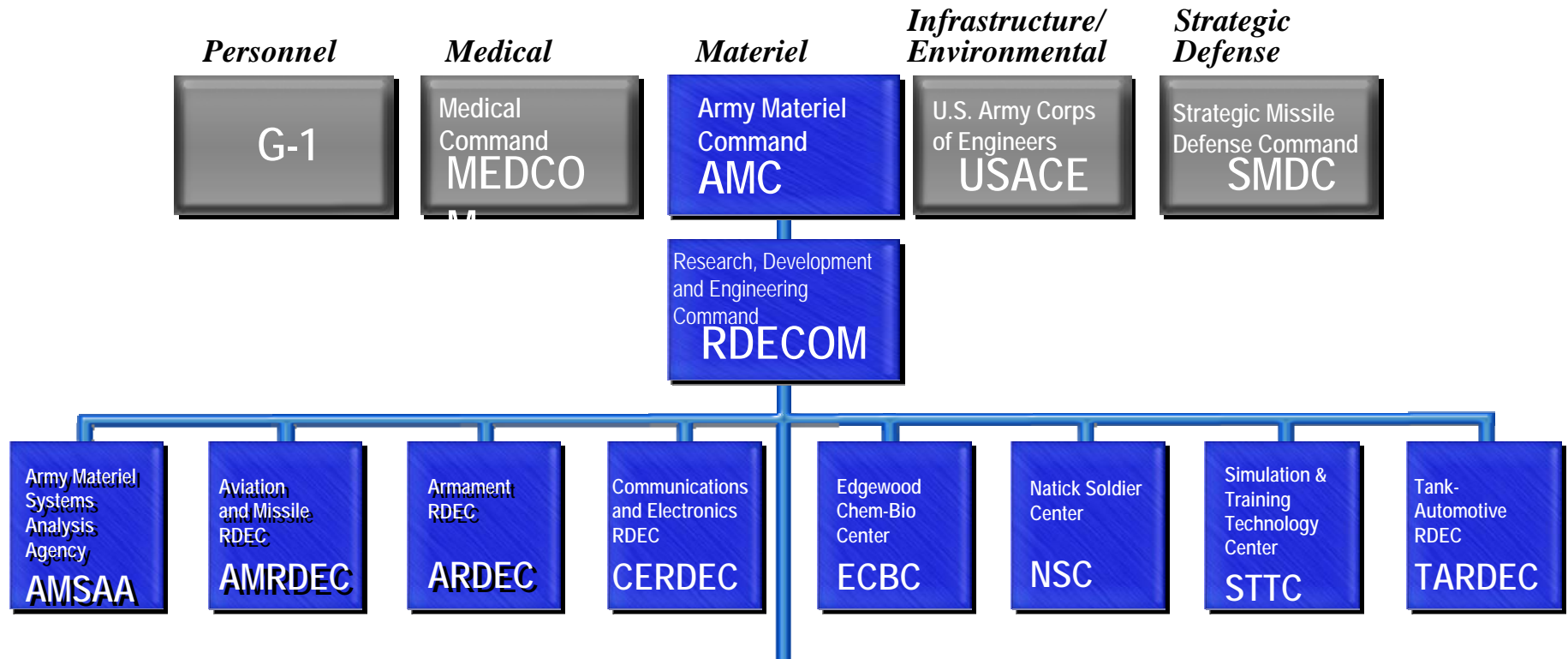
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# Army S&T Performing Organizations



**ARL provides underpinning Science, Technology, and Analysis to the Army**

Army Research Office

<b>Vehicle Technology</b> 	<b>Human Research &amp; Engineering</b> 	<b>Survivability/Lethality Analysis</b> 	<b>Computational &amp; Information Sciences</b> 	<b>Sensors &amp; Electron Devices</b> 	<b>Weapons &amp; Materials Research</b> 	<b>Mathematical &amp; Information Sciences</b> 	<b>Physical Sciences</b> 	<b>Engineering Sciences</b> 
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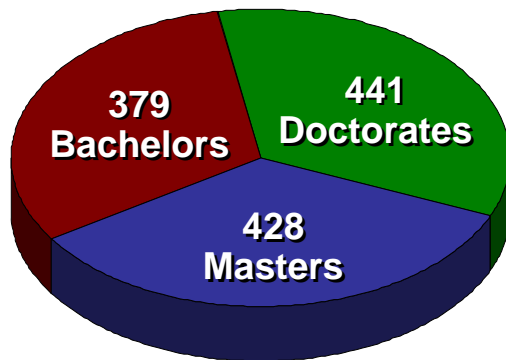


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## Civilian Personnel Profile



### 1248 S&E Workforce



### 1480 Technical Staff

- 277 Electrical/Electronics Engineers
- 200 Physicists/Physical Scientists
- 171 Mechanical Engineers
- 90 General/Industrial Engineers
- 43 Aerospace Engineers
- 72 Materials Engrs./Metallurgists
- 61 Engineering Psychologists
- 77 Chemical Engineers/Chemists
- 6 Biologists
- 52 Operations Research Analysts
- 126 Computer Scientists/Engineer
- 35 Mathematicians/Statisticians
- 20 Meteorologists
- 5 Ceramic Engineers
- 13 Other E&S
- 232 E&S Technicians



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## What's the Army S&T Community Doing?



	Estimated FY07%
* <b>NANOELECTRONICS/NANOPHOTONICS/NANOMAGNETICS-</b> Network Centric Warfare Information Dominance and Quantum Computing Sensors and detection technology Displays Nanotechnology for power and energy Digital signal processing and communications Bioelectronics	~37%
* <b>NANOMATERIALS BY DESIGN</b> Structural Nanomaterials Polymer Nanomaterials Ballistic Nanomaterials Nano-energetic Materials NanoMaterials Processing and Assembly Stimuli Responsive Nano Materials Nanoengineered Functional Materials Bio-inspired nanomaterials	~38%
* <b>BIONANOTECHNOLOGY</b>	~25%

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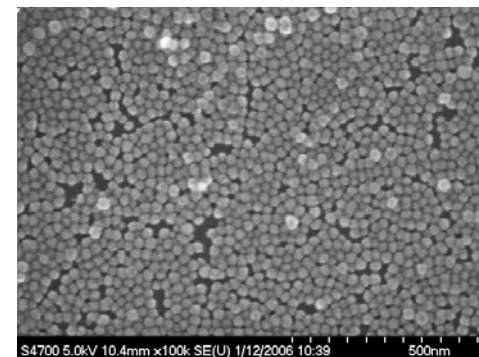
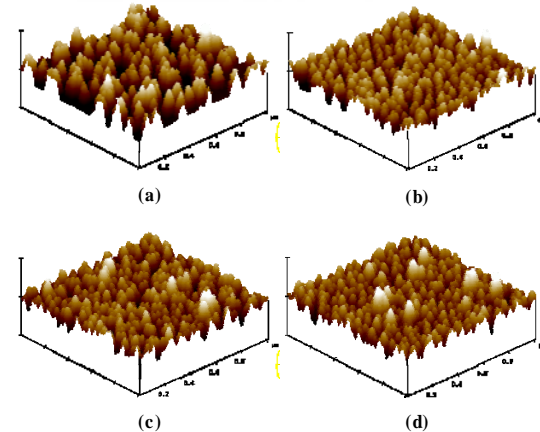
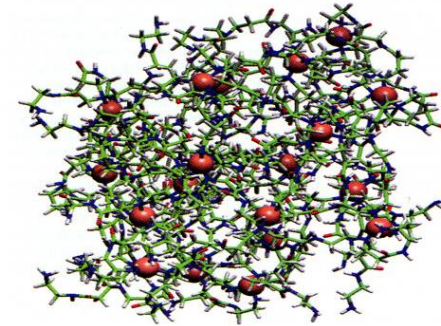


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# Sampling of Army Research on NanoEngineered Materials



- The Institute for Soldier Nanotechnologies
- Organic and Polymeric Nanomaterials
  - ✓ Directed Assembly
  - ✓ Coatings
  - ✓ Resins for Composites
  - ✓ Nanoscale modification of fibers and fiber-matrix interphase
  - ✓ Transparent nanocomposites for armor applications
- Inorganic Nanomaterials
  - ✓ Nanostructured ceramics
  - ✓ Trimodal aluminum alloys
  - ✓ Nanograined W for penetrators
  - ✓ BAM composites for penetrators

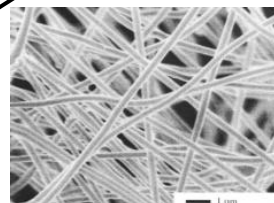
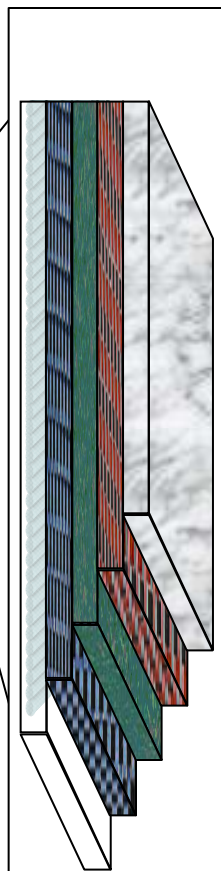


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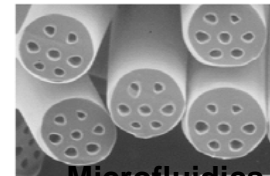


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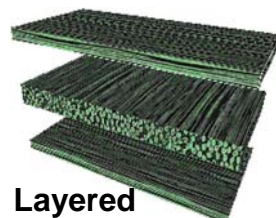
# Multifunctional Adaptive-Active Nanostructured Fibers and Materials



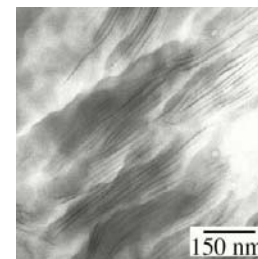
**Nanofibers**



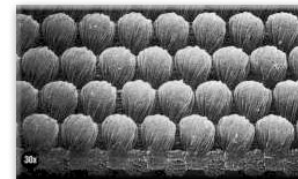
**Microfluidics**



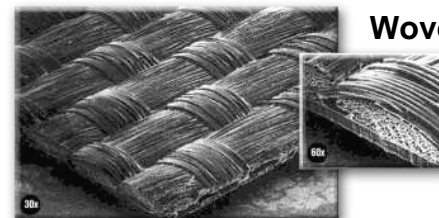
**Layered Nanostructures**



**Nanocomposites**

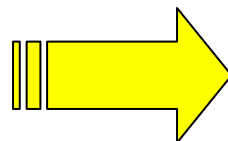


**Nanostructures**



**Woven-Materials**

**Layers of Multifunctional Nanomaterials**

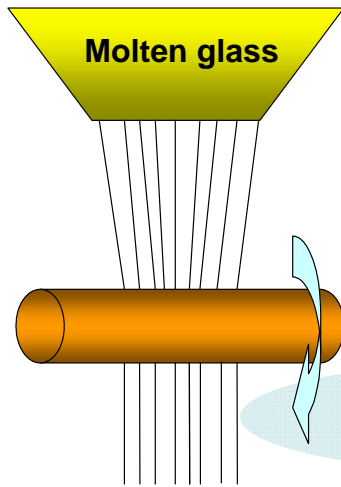


**Increased Functionality with Decreased Weight & Volume**

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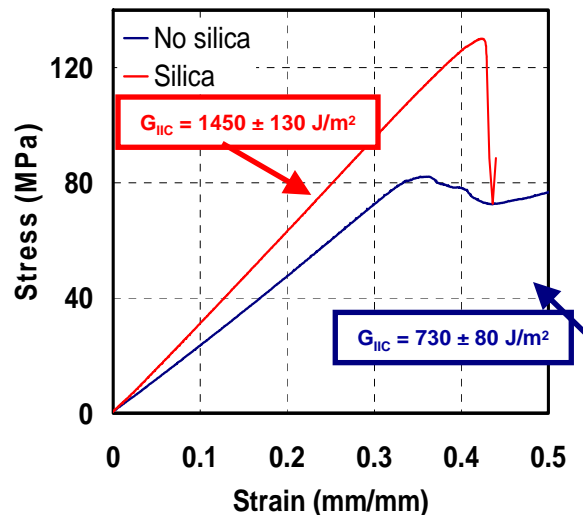
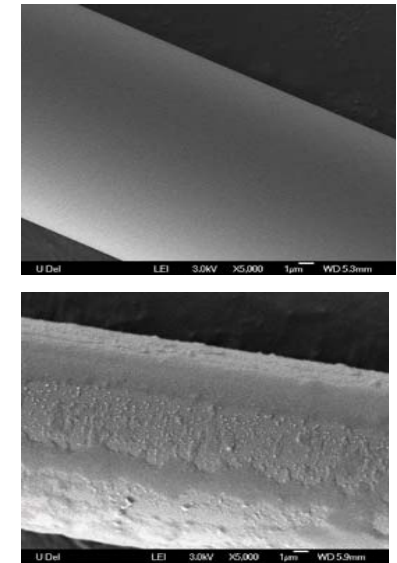
Particles incorporated into sizing package and applied during manufacture



Fabrics used in rate-responsive composite materials with enhanced toughness

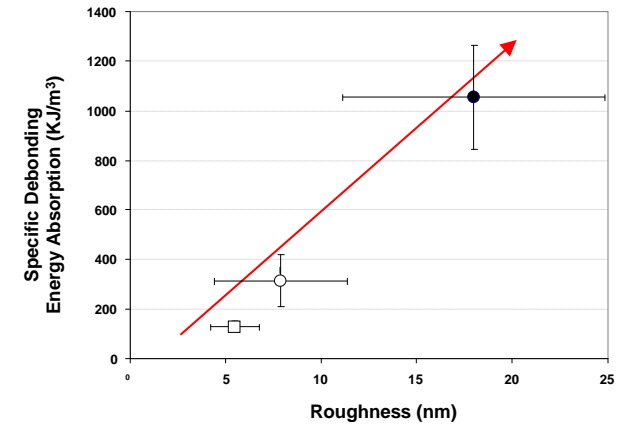


Sizings in Pilot-Scale Fiber Manufacturing



### Macro-scale Performance Enhancement

- Improved toughness
- Improved energy absorption
- Minimal impact on cost
- Minimal impact of base fiber





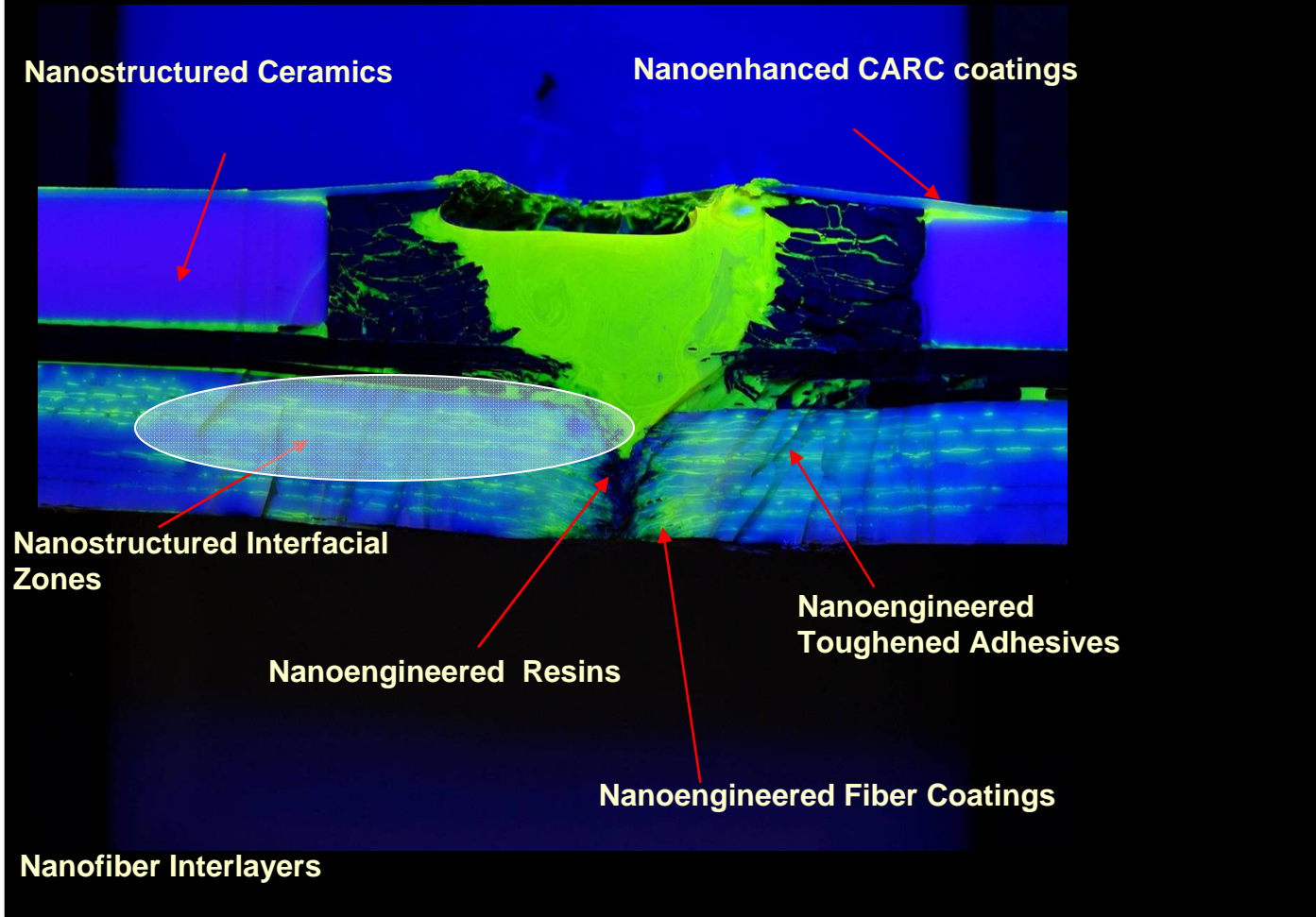


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# Nanomaterials for Armor Systems



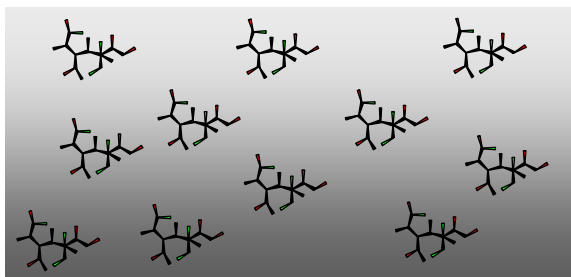
## Nanomaterials for Lightweight Armor Systems



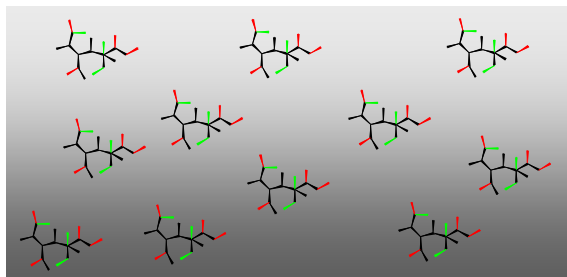
**TECHNOLOGY DRIVEN. WARFIGHTER FOCUSED.**



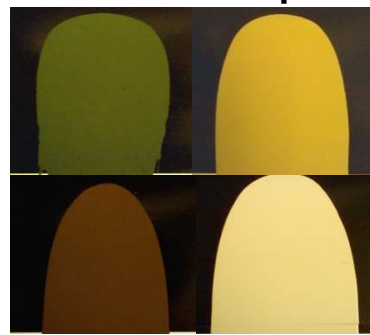
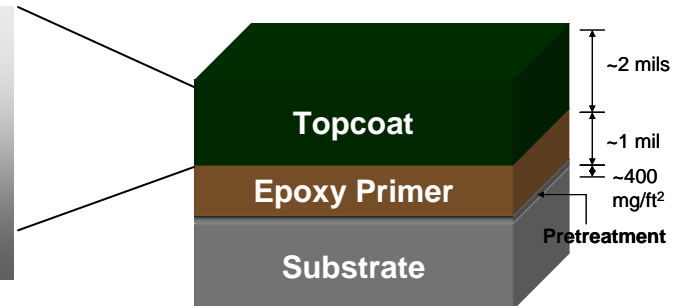
# Nano-Engineered Additives for Self Detoxifying Surfaces



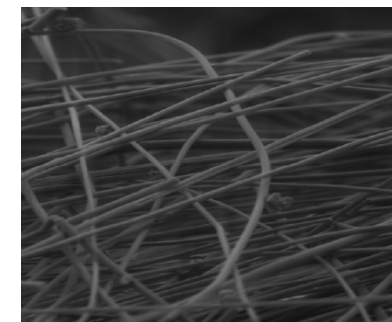
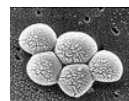
Typical additives



ARL patented universal transport vehicle



Self detoxifying CARC



Activated fibers

## Self-segregating materials address several issues

- Decreased additive requirement
- Minimizes mass transport issues
- Minimal impact on base coating

- 99.9999 % reduction of pathogens such as *C. albicans* and MRSA with 1 wt % of additive
- Platform technology – can deliver many reactive moieties to coating surface
- Compatible with many existing coating and fiber systems

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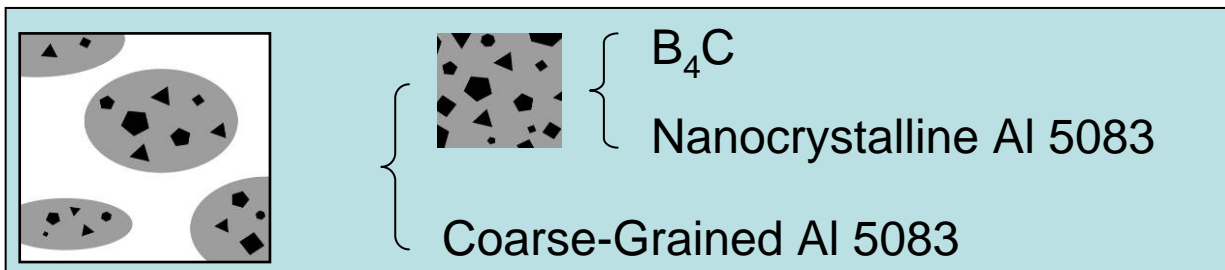
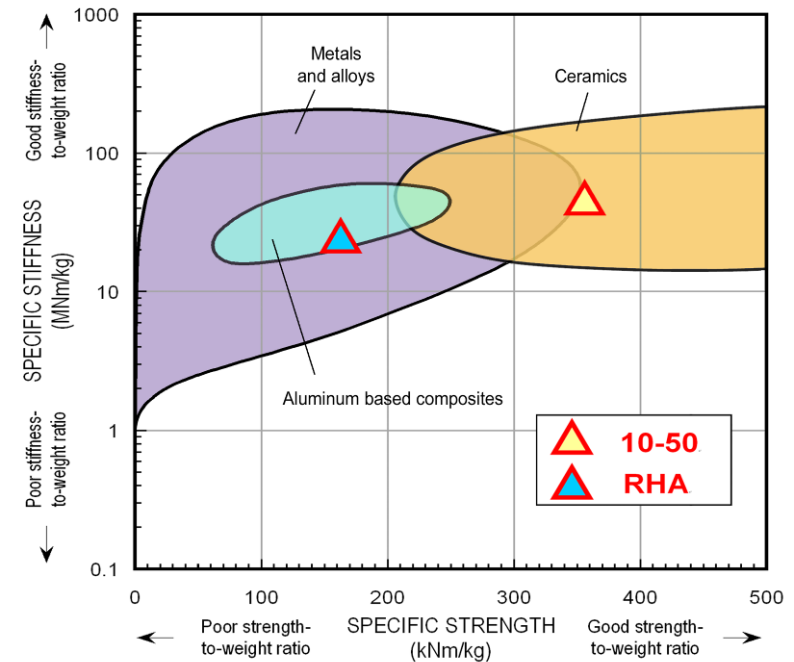
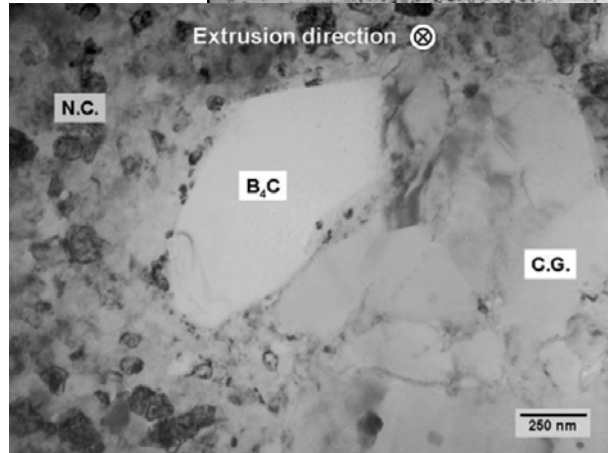
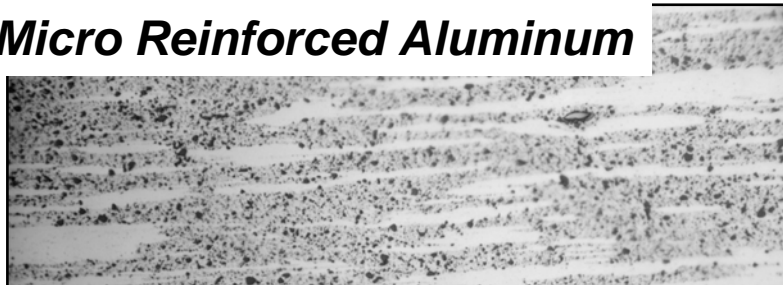


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# Lightweight Metallics Tri-Modal Aluminum Alloys



## Nano-Micro Reinforced Aluminum



**High strength at  
high strain rates**

**Nearly the Strength of RHA at One-Third the Weight!**

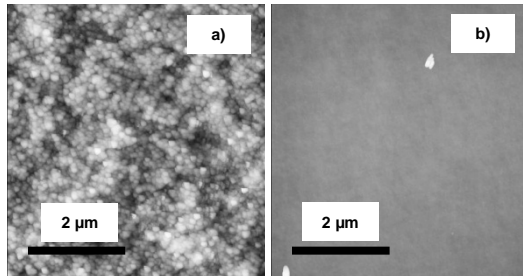


# OPTICALLY TRANSPARENT NANOPOROUS GLASS-POLYMER COMPOSITES



	Glass (Starphire)	Vycor- PMMA	PMMA	Vycor
Density (g/cm <sup>3</sup> )	2.50	1.81	1.2	1.45
Young's modulus (GPa)	73.1	30	2.5	17
Modulus of Rupture (MPa)	39	57	62	21
Acoustic Impedance (kg/(m <sup>2</sup> -s))	14.6	7.8	3.2	4.85

**AFM scans** suggest more tortuous crack path in filled/unfilled Vycor compared to conventional glass



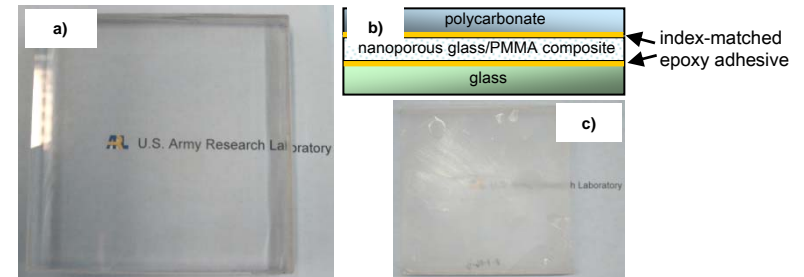
AFM topography scans of filled Vycor (a) and Starphire glass (b) cleaved surfaces. The height contrast scale in both images is 200 nm.

**Filled Vycor with optical polish** 95% transmittance, 0.3% haze, 100% clarity



Filled Vycor plate with optical polish in center region exhibits excellent optical properties

**Transparent laminate** constructed with polycarbonate and glass with nanocomposite interlayer; 86% transmittance, 4% haze, 94% clarity



(a) Transparent laminate with filled Vycor interlayer (b) schematic of laminate (c) rough-ground filled Vycor before incorporating into laminate with index-matched epoxy

- **Transparent glass-polymer nanocomposite is possible through infiltration and careful polymerization of low viscosity monomer (MMA) in nanoporous glass.**
- **Polished material is highly transparent with high clarity and low haze**
- **Filling pores with polymer increases failure strength of Vycor by greater than 250%**
- **Manufacturing process has been scaled to accommodate 16"x16" sheets**

**TECHNOLOGY DRIVEN. WARFIGHTER FOCUSED.**

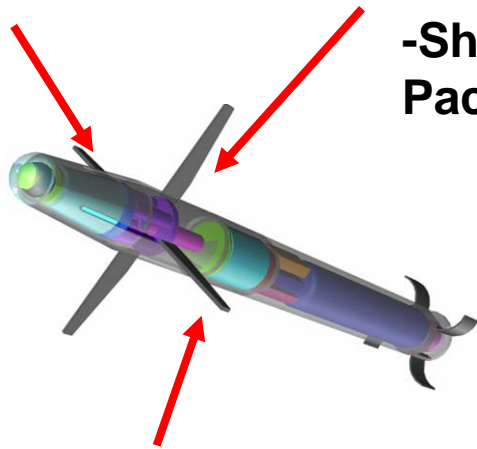


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# Notional Applications for Munitions



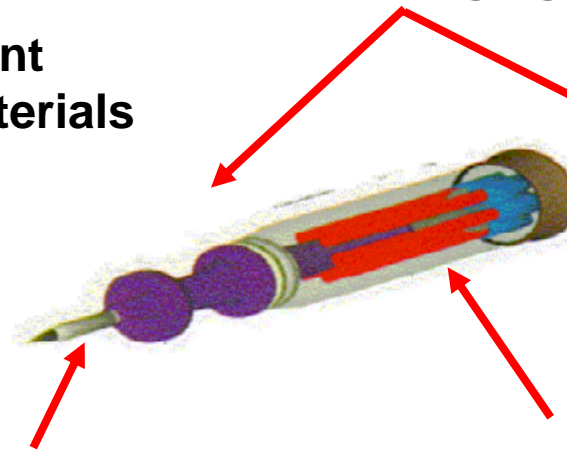
**Nanotechnology For Power & Energy**



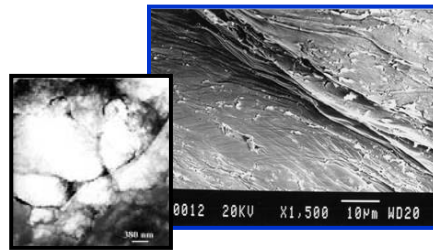
**Nanomaterials for Actuators**

**-On-board Nanoelectronics for GNC**  
**-Shock resistant Packaging materials**

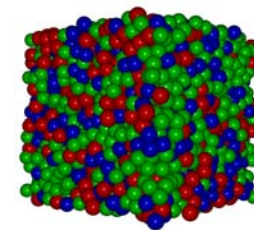
**Lightweight Nanocomposites For Packaging Components**



**Metallic Nanomaterials For Penetrators**



**Nanoenergetics**



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# Nanostructured Metals by Equal Channel Angular Extrusion



Equal Channel Angular Extrusion (ECAE) is a deformation processing method which yields nanostructured metals in bulk quantities. The resulting nanostructured metals demonstrate concurrently high strength and ductility



**TECHNOLOGY DRIVEN. WARFIGHTER FOCUSED.**



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## Summary



- Nanomaterials with unique properties have long been in existence, are currently used, and will be extensively used in the future
- These unique properties of nanomaterials are being exploited by ARL to provide:
  - **Higher performance materials**
  - **Lighter, stronger structures**
  - **Ultradurability/ultrareliability**
  - **Unprecedented situational awareness**
  - **Affordable precision munitions**