# ADVANCED MATERIALS NIOSH PERSPECTIVE

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The findings and conclusions in this presentation have not been formally disseminated by the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health and should not be construed to represent any agency determination or policy.

# TECHNOLOGIES THAT IMPACT THE WORKPLACE

- Nanotechnology
- Advanced Materials
- Biotechnology
- Additive Manufacturing/3D Printing
- Digitalization and advanced computing
- ► Artificial Intelligence, Machine Learning (VR, AR)
- Sensing Technology
- Modeling and Simulation
- ► Robotics

Drawn from several forecasting reports.

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Advanced Material Component

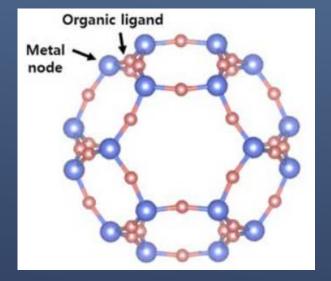
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### ADVANCED MATERIALS

- Materials designed with a specific functionality or application in mind
- ► Generally more active
- Impart new or improved properties
- ► Functional textiles
- ► Biomaterials

Does more 'active' = higher hazard?

### **Examples of Advanced Materials**



### Metal Organic Frameworks (MOF)

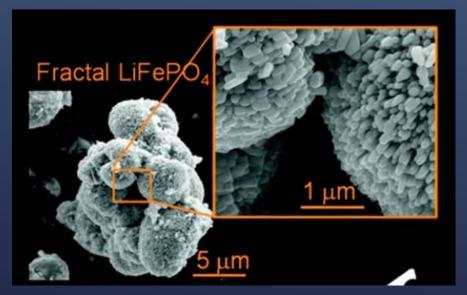
Cage like structures Large internal and external surface area Reactive Manufactured as fine powders Formed into solids for applications

Applications 3D Printing 'ink' Gas storage Drug delivery Sensors Nutrient detection and delivery

### **Examples of Advanced Materials**

The quest for a better Li Ion battery through more efficient electrode materials

Carbon/LiFePO4 material research. "Reducing the size of the particles to create morphologies which could provide a path for better ion diffusion"



Caban-Huertas, Scientific Reports, 2016

If manufactured and processed in high volumes, would this material require special handling?

## **Applying Current EHS Knowledge**

Nanotechnology





**Advanced Materials** 

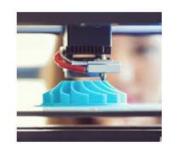
**Advanced Manufacturing** 



## ADVANCED MATERIALS IN MANUFACTURING



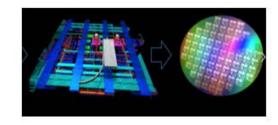
Additive Manufacturing



3D Printing



**Functional Fabrics** 



**Photonics** 



Flexible Sensors



Light Weighting





Robotics



Advanced Composites



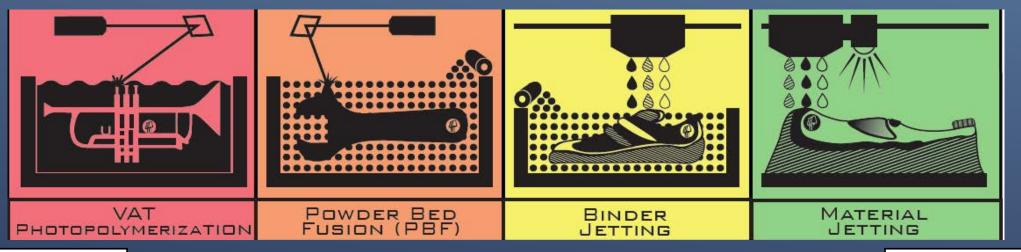
Clean Energy



Engineered Biology

Some processes and some products.

Additive Manufacturing and 3D Printing Old & New Processes and Materials

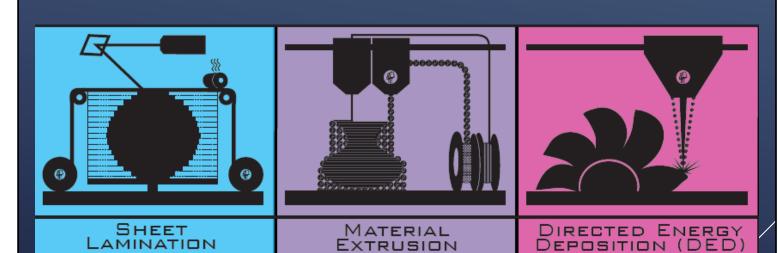


#### Old Processes:

- Welding
- Curing
- Printing

#### **New Processes:**

- Controlled
- Combined
- Automated



**Old Materials:** 

- Metals & Alloys
- Thermoplastics
- Photopolymers
- Ceramics

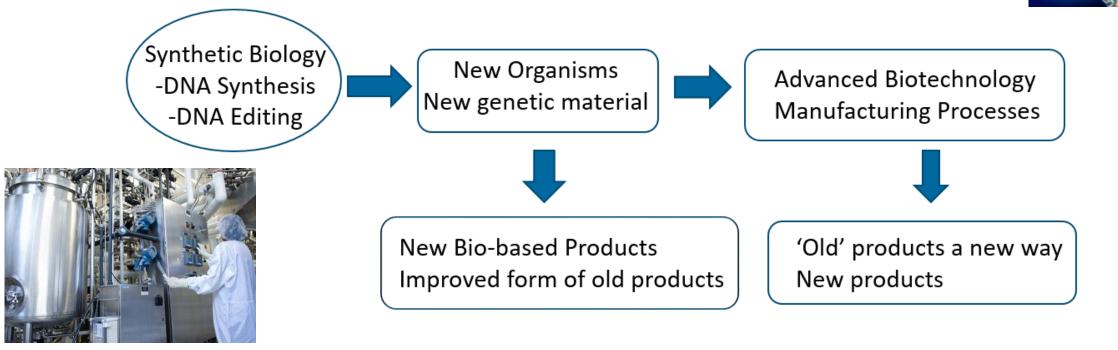
#### **New Materials:**

- Superalloys
- Nano-additives

Hazards resemble those of past materials and processes, but in new combinations and contexts.

# **Bio-Based Manufacturing**

### Impact on Workers, Environment, and Consumers?



Will using Biology as a manufacturing technology create unanticipated hazards for workers and consumers?

Can existing biosafety, chemical safety, and other frameworks be used to achieve safe biology-based manufacturing? If not, what do we need to develop?

## **NIOSH Nanotechnology Field Team**

- Over 100 visits to 65 nanotechnology sites
- 19 visits to 11 additive manufacturing sites
- Use existing methods to evaluate processes & exposures
- Provide guidance and recommendations to partners
- Fill knowledge gaps on real-world technologies, uses, and exposures
- Always seeking more partnerships and collaborations!







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