



ANEC/BEUC inventory of products claiming to contain nanoparticles available on the EU market

Nanotechnologies are a range of technologies that use materials on an incredibly small scale for their specific properties. One nano-meter is one millionth of a millimeter, which means about 10,000 times smaller than the diameter of a human hair. These materials are being used today by the industrial sector to continuously create new products and applications.

Although we acknowledge nanotechnologies could potentially offer great benefits to consumers and the environment, these technologies and materials may also present new risks which have never been properly evaluated. ANEC and BEUC are therefore concerned about the increasing number of products claiming to contain nanomaterials currently sold on the EU market without being subject to a proper safety assessment. Furthermore, consumers are often faced with unclear and confusing claims about nanomaterials used in consumer products.

This is why in 2009 we started to compile an inventory of products claiming to contain nanomaterials which are available to consumers. In 2009, the ANEC/BEUC inventory listed examples of 151 products claiming to contain nanomaterials and which are available to consumers in Europe.

In October 2010, we proceeded with an update, following the same methodology and found 475 products. The inventory is available on our websites www.beuc.eu and www.anec.eu. To browse the inventory, click on the list of categories.

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FOOD & BEVERAGE

GOODS FOR CHILDREN

HEALTH & FITNESS

HOME AND GARDEN

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