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### A world first; centre of excellence for nanomaterials

The UK government's Technology Strategy Board approached IOM to help "de-risk" the emerging nanotechnology industry by launching the first centre of excellence for the safety of nanomaterials.

With support from Scottish Enterprise, the SAFENANO centre had two core elements: a website with information on nanoparticle risk, and the provision of services for the UK nanotechnology sector based on the best available emerging standards, knowledge and practices of the time. The work IOM undertook through the SAFENANO initiative has been invaluable in helping the industry develop and use nanomaterials in a safe and responsible manner, taking a precautionary approach through a safe-by-design method.

