

BASF Venture Capital's perspective on Nanotechnology

**4th National Conference of the N.I.C –
Nanotechnologies in the Chemical Industry**

Milan

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Disclaimer



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About BASF

BASF at a glance



BASF – The Chemical Company

- ❑ The world's leading chemical company.
- ❑ Offers intelligent system solutions and high-value products for almost all industries.

	2009	Q1-Q3 2010
Sales:	€ 50,693 m	€ 47,449 m
EBIT:	€ 3,667 m	€ 6,373 m

Segment Structure and Divisions



Chemicals



Plastics



Performance Products



Functional Solutions



Agricultural Solutions



Oil & Gas

Inorganics

Performance Polymers

Dispersions & Pigments

Catalysts

Crop Protection

Oil & Gas

Petro-chemicals

Poly-urethanes

Care Chemicals

Construction Chemicals

Inter-mediate

Paper Chemicals

Coatings

Performance Chemicals

Nanotechnology is relevant to all these segments!

Nanotechnology at BASF: examples of products



Dispersions

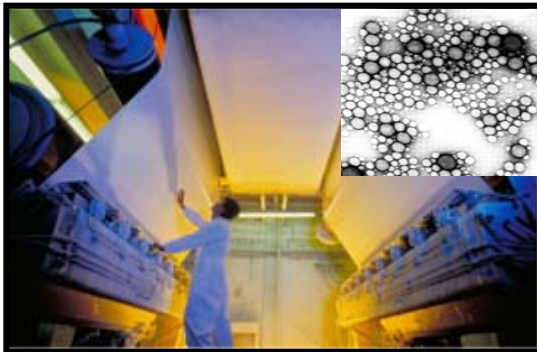


Variocrom

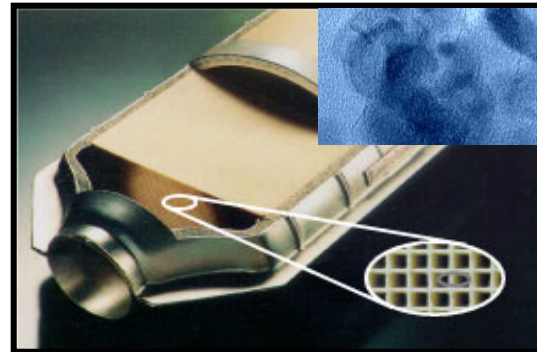
Pigments



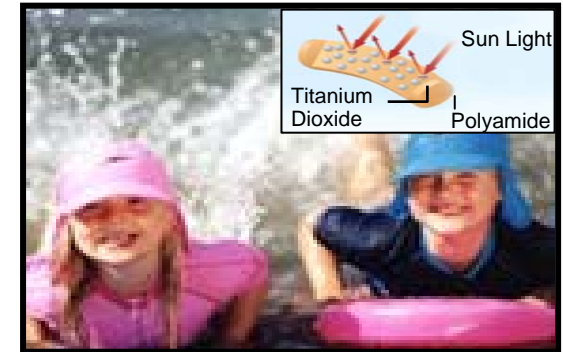
Polymers



Formulations



Catalysts



UV protective fibers

Nanotechnology – Promises & Challenges

Promises

Properties beyond existing materials, eg.

- High strength;
- High electric conductivity;
- Low thermal conductivity;
- Lightweight;
- Tunable light-emission frequencies (Q-dots);
- Etc.

(naturally, not all properties come simultaneously)

Challenges

- Production methods: mass scale at low cost;
- Health, Safety and Environmental challenges;
- Capital intensive deals;
- Missing the so-called “killer application”.

About BASF Venture Capital (BVC)

BASF Venture Capital (BVC)



- Founded April, 2001.
- Corporate Venture Capital branch of the BASF Group.
- 14 employees with offices in Ludwigshafen (Germany; HQ), Fremont (CA, USA), Hong Kong (China) and Tokyo (Japan).
- Vested with €150 million.
- Minority investments, ca. € 1 to 5 million per company.
- 23 direct and 5 fund investments since inception.

BVC's Key objectives

- Open a Window on Technology.
- Generate risk-adequate financial returns.

BVC Portfolio in Nanotechnology

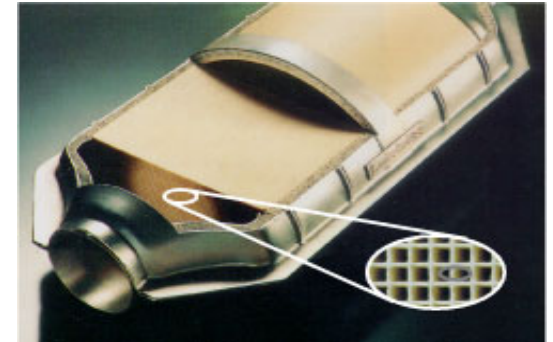
Materials



Enablers



End applications



NanoMas
Technologies, Inc.

SDC
MATERIALS

quantiam
technologies inc.

OXONICA

AgION
ANTIMICROBIAL
AgION TECHNOLOGIES, INC.

Catalytic
Solutions

Plastic Logic

Nanotech is naturally a relevant topic for BASF!

Direct Investments

June 2002



Nanotechnology
Oxford, UK

May 2003



Plant Biotechnology
Davis, USA

May 2003



Catalysts
Oxnard, USA

July 2003



High throughput experimentation
Heidelberg, Germany

July 2003



Microdisplays
Edinburgh, UK

October 2003



Display Components
Seoul, S. Korea

September 2004



Genetic Tests
Boulder, USA

December 2004



Functional Nutrition
Columbia, USA

August 2005



Biocides
Wakefield, USA

November 2005



Printed Electronics
Cambridge, UK

December 2005



Optical Wave Guides
Wilmington, USA

June 2006



Nanotechnology
Tempe, USA

September 2006



White Biotechnology
Golden, USA

January 2007



Fuel Cells
Livermore, USA

February 2007



Laser Marking Systems
Widnes, UK

June 2007



Organic Photovoltaic
Dresden, Germany

March 2008



DNA labelling
Tutzing, Germany

May 2008



Precious Metals
Heidelberg, Germany

September 2008



Nanotechnology
New York, USA

December 2009



Specialty coatings
Edmonton, Canada

September 2010

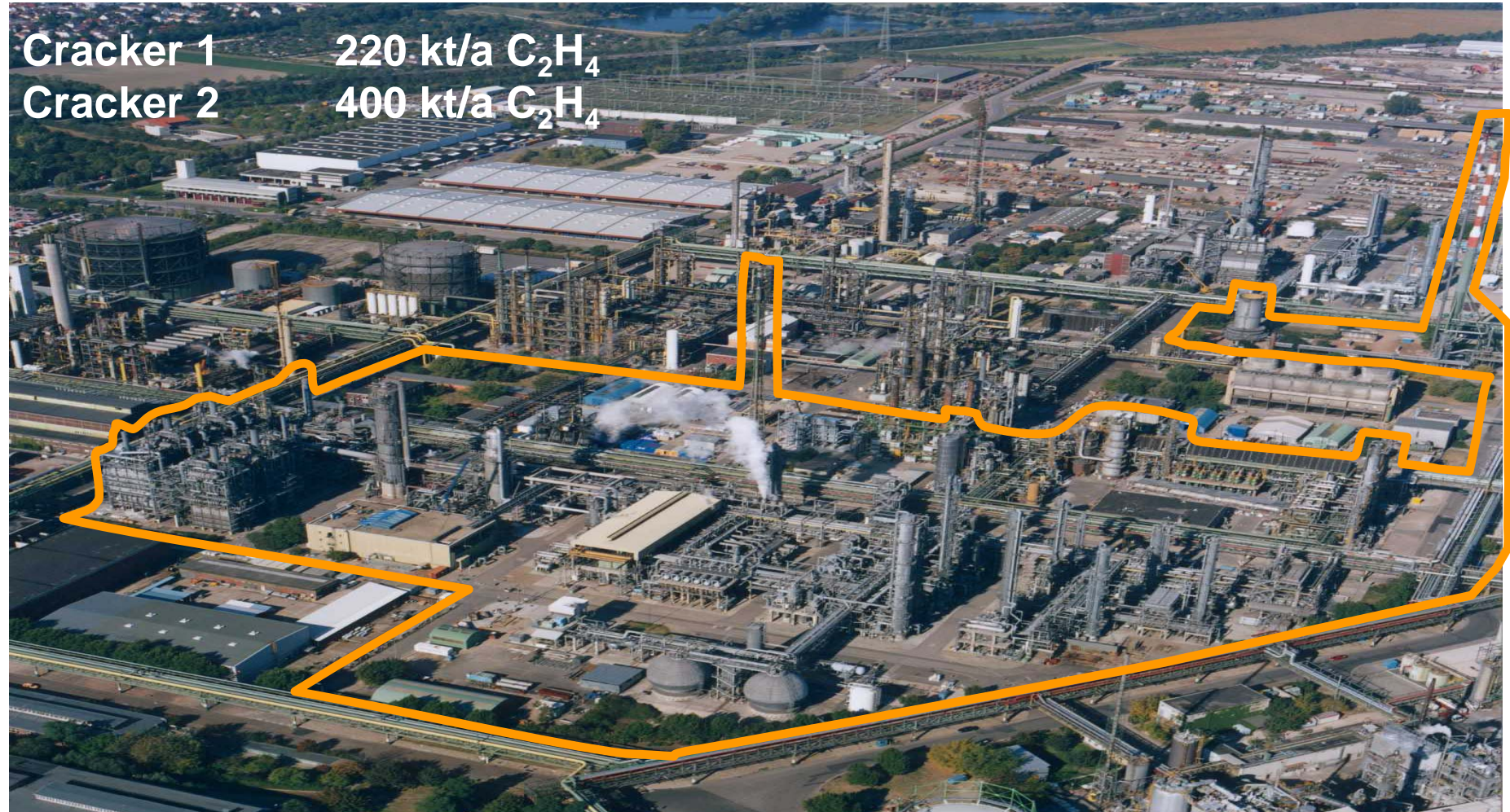


Aerogel insulation
Northborough, USA

Quantiam - CAMOL

A Nanotechnology for Chemical Sites

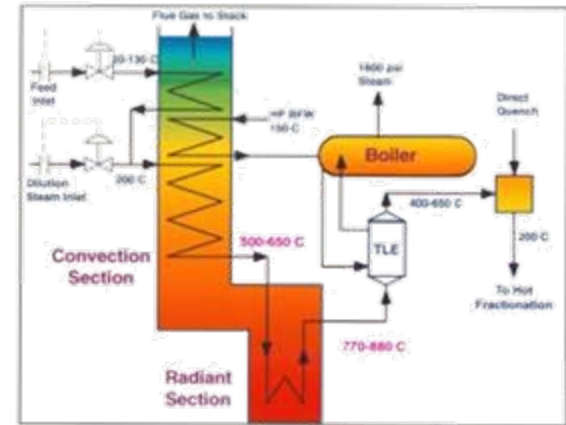
Cracker 1 220 kt/a C_2H_4
Cracker 2 400 kt/a C_2H_4



CAMOL Technology

Coke formation in steam crackers

- Problem to be solved:
 - during steam cracking process coke is formed inside tubes during the thermal treatment of the feed/steam mixture inside the furnace
 - layer of coke reduces the diameter of the tube and insulates it
 - consequences of the coke formation process are:
 - higher operating temperature, energy consumption and emission of greenhouse gases
 - loss in capacity: due to decoking periods and high content of steam necessary to reduce coke formation
 - maintenance costs and reduced lifetime of tubes
- CAMOL: Catalyzed-assisted manufacture of olefins is a coating that inhibits the formation of catalytic coke and oxidizes small coke particles formed by thermally initiated processes



CAMOL Catalyst-Coating Technology Objectives

Primary Benefits Targeted

1. Carbon (Coke)-free performance through:

- surface inertness to filamentous (catalytic) coke
- surface catalyzed gasification of amorphous (pyrolytic) coke

2. Thermal stability of overall coating, >1100°C, >5 yrs

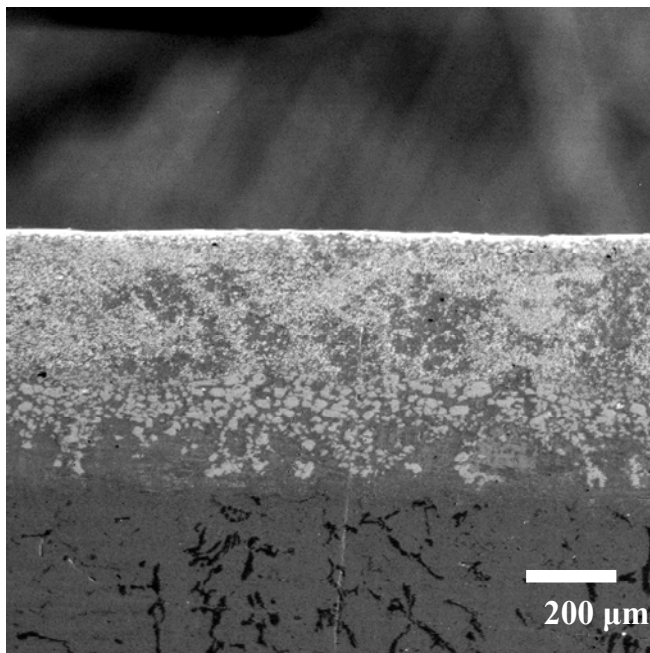
- with thermal stability of outermost surface, minimum of 100-150°C > chromia

3. Resistance to broad range of materials degradation processes

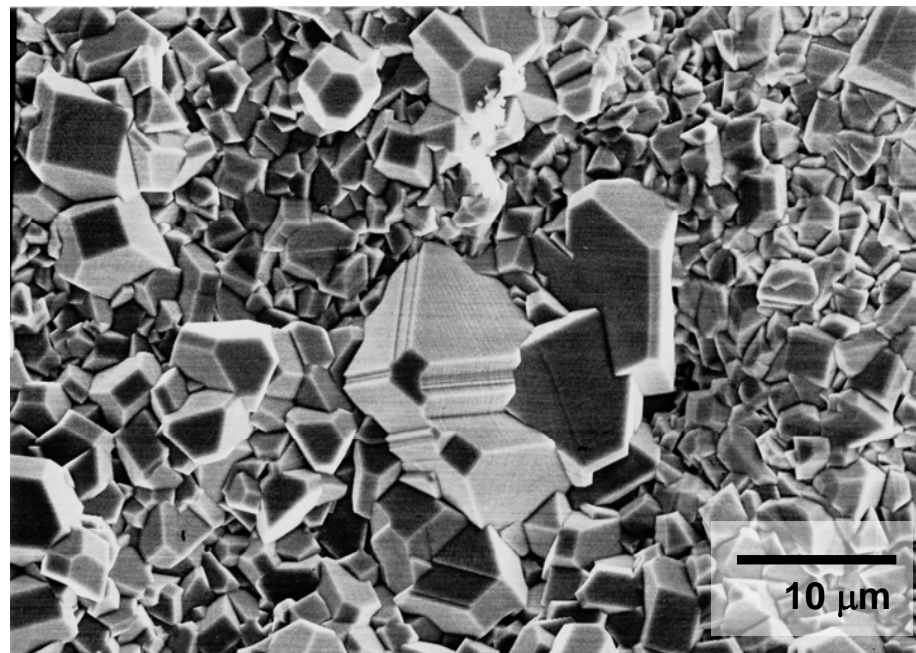
- carburization
- internal oxidation
- sulfidation
- other forms of corrosion

Overall, targeted 21 chemical, physical and thermo-mechanical properties to achieve commercial viability – never before achieved, worldwide

New nano-enabled Catalyst Coating for Manufacturing Olefins with Lower-energy and GHG Emissions



An SEM micrograph of a metallographic cross-section of the CAMOL Low-catalytic Gasification (LCG) coating ~1,000 microns thick



An SEM micrograph of the topmost surface of the CAMOL Low-catalytic Gasification (LCG) coating

Nanotechnology start-ups: Dynamics of IPO and M&A (1995 – 2009)

	IPO	M&A
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Platform

# of exits	4,0	9,0
average deal value	USD 22,8 m	USD 10,5 m
average revenue multiple	28,0	7,1
cash on cash return	3,8	2,0

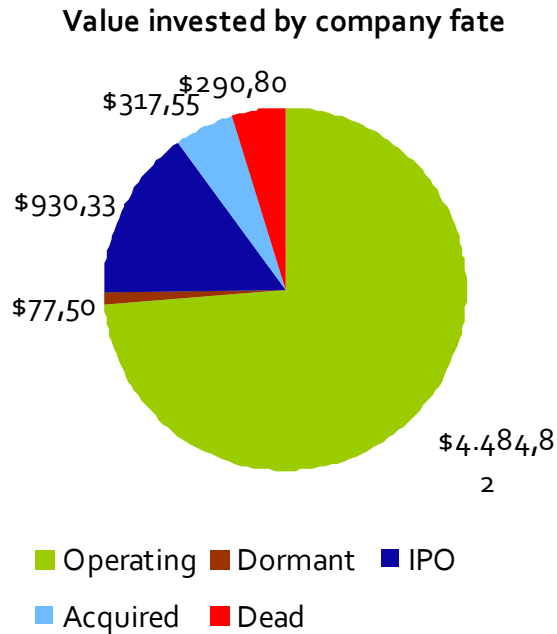
Application

# of exits	15,0	15,0
average deal value	USD 62,6 m	USD 13,0 m
average revenue multiple	97,4	23,9
cash on cash return	8,4	2,2

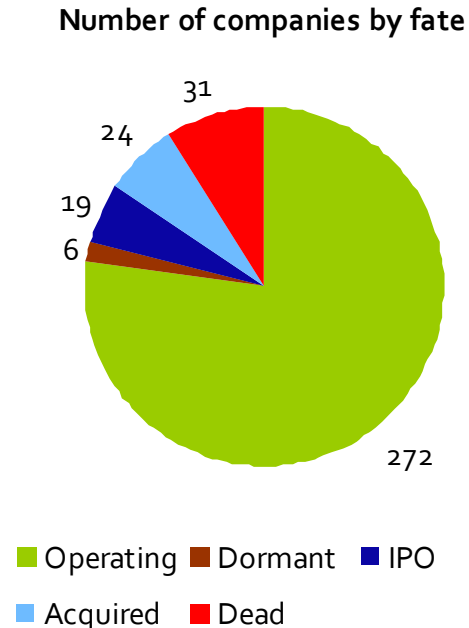
Source: Lux Research

The Nanotech Start-up World

VC-Backed nanotech Start-ups' Fates Through 2009



Source: Lux Research



Source: Lux Research

- **VCs are generally more careful about Nanotech deals:**
 - Most VCs do not have the skills to understand the underlying technologies.
 - Long time-to-Exit, capital-intensive deals.
 - Only 1 “billion dollar” IPO (Battery company A123) so far.
 - Challenges around health and environmental issues.
- **The “cool-off” is not so bad:**
 - Lower valuations – better alignment with the investment risk.
 - Entrepreneurs have to articulate a clear value proposition – being NANO is not enough.