



Nano-enabled products contain very small engineered nanomaterials. Adding them to construction products can make them stronger or protect them from the sun. Nanomaterials are many times thinner than a human hair. Nano titanium dioxide is a common nanomaterial added to paints. Workers can breathe in nanomaterials when they spray, sand or disturb nano-enabled paint.

The National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH) believes nano titanium dioxide might be harmful to workers because it causes lung damage and cancer in lab animals. NIOSH has a recommended exposure limit for nano titanium dioxide of 5 mg/m³ as a time-weighted average (TWA) for an 8-hour shift, but other standards, like respiratory protection or hazard communication, may apply.

Frank's Story

Frank is using an airless sprayer and a new paint that contains nano titanium dioxide to paint wooden

