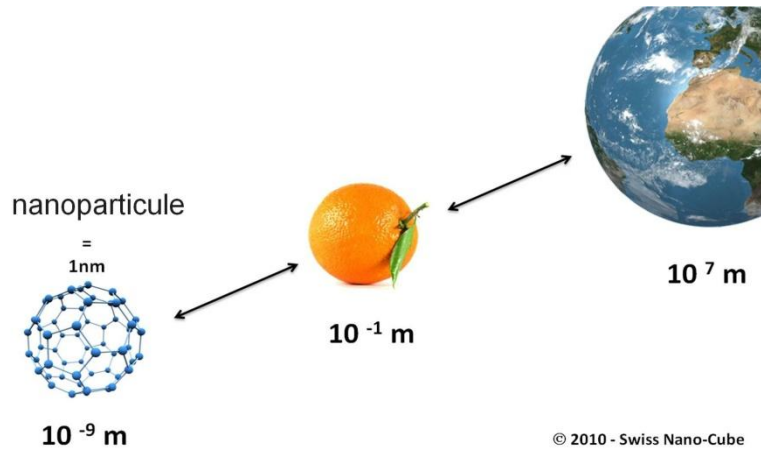


# The revolution of smart fabrics!

**Today, nanotechnologies enable the development of stain-proof or anti-odor textiles. In about ten years, if capsules were replaced by clothes capable of healing through the deliverance of pharmaceutical products, what would our future be like?**



Nanotechnology is the manipulation of the matter at the nanometric scale, which is a billion times smaller than a meter. In 1981, the observation and the interaction on the matter at this scale became possible. Since, nanotechnology has been in constant progress.

Andreas Jack who works for the firm Christian Eschler AG which manufactures smart textiles says, that it allows "to produce textiles presenting new functions or improved without modifying their visual aspect or their touch and opens now ecological perspectives".

Today, it is possible to create stain-proof textiles thanks to the lotus effect - which consists in making a hydrophobic surface, that is to say waterproof - anti-odor and even textiles which can control our thermal regulation.

Science hasn't finished to amaze you yet! In a decade, textiles will occupy a major part in the medical and military area with protective textiles and others able to identify the physiological condition of the person wearing them. Many companies have joined this adventure. 48% of them are located in the United States, 30% in Europe and 20% in Asia. However, those researches have a cost. Indeed, the economic contribution of France amounts to more than a billion Euros between 2001 and 2005. The United States is the nation which dedicates the largest amount of money to nanotechnologies. And do not panic, the European Union, worried about the possible side-effects of nanotechnology on the environment and health, is working on adapted regulations to limit them.

Nano-textiles will continue to surprise you...

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