

Nanotech opens doors to revolutionary opportunities enabled by the properties of materials at the nano scale.

Commercializing nanotech provides great challenges requiring cross-disciplinary teams.

# This is the Nanotech Century!



Standard forecast but too hard to call





- Mid 1800s most people worked on farms
- In 2005 < 2% of people work on farms</li>
   Productivity and Automation changed that
- Mid 1900s most people worked in factories

#### **Productivity and Automation changed that**

- Since 2000 US lost ~ 2M manufacturing jobs
- Since 2000 World lost ~ 22M manufacturing jobs
  - Trend likely to continue
- High skilled knowledge work is dominating

### Nano builds on RECENT knowledge

## Education & <u>Re-education</u> essential



## Trend - Energy Price

### • Developing Country Demand Driving Energy Prices





- Price drives most users to carbon fuels
- Coal is cheap and plentiful
- Oil works in transportation
- Natural gas is cleaner but still carbon





- US population of elderly is growing in numbers but also as a % of total population
- Many countries have similar demographics even China
- Medical advances may exacerbate these demographics
   beyond current projections



# Startup Opportunity Drivers

- Global economic conditions, financial markets, global competition, and accelerating technology itself have altered where and how most advances occur.
- Enterprises no longer produce most revolutionary advances internally but instead acquire companies.

# Never have conditions for technology and life science startups been as attractive relative to enterprises.





- Many venture funds still support a large startup portfolio from 1998-2000.
- Early stage funding is at a 10-year low \* as percent of total venture funding.
- Nanotech is generally viewed as excessively long-term by most venture funds <sup>†</sup>.
- Startups should plan on achieving key milestones before seeking VC funding.

<sup>\*</sup> Thomson Venture Economics, PwC and NVCA.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>†</sup> Some nanotech systems may take several decades to reach markets, but some could reach markets in just a few years.

# VC Requirements to Fund Startups

- **Disruptive** technology
- Top technology **team -** some management
- **Proof of concept** not just proof of principle
- Defensible intellectual property
- Customer references
- Viable **business model**
- Substantial **revenue** likely
- Reasonable total capital to exit
- Syndicate able to carry startup to exit
- Acceptable IRR adjusted for risk payback to investors = many times invested \$



- Valley of Death Expands for Complex Tech
- Exacerbated by Lack of Early Stage Funding Valley of I Banks for Neg. Profit Cash Flow Death Time Gov't R&D Investment Valley has expanded as VCs shift more funding to later stage and angel investors have declined in Gov't university funding tends to number and level of investment stop before a suitable prototype is demonstrated. Helfrich



### Issue A - Nano takes longer to a good exit

Most nano is early so yes on average - BUT

Issue B - Nano IP is too complicated

- Patents have some value but are not the only answer
- Proprietary Know-how can be more defensible
  - But know-how is hard to prove unique to one startup

### Issue C - Nano is hardest to make profitable

- It depends picking first product is key to success
- Avoid waiting until best version is complete sell
- Nano margins tend to be better products harder to copycat on average



#### **Convert R&D to Profitable Companies**

- Much of the \$ spent on R&D (outside of DoD) are spent at Universities and National Labs
- Few enterprises are now equipped to take advantage of this early stage R&D.
- Few startups result from these sources and <u>many</u> more should but lack one or more elements.
- Success requires startups with teams, relationships and skills to create winning companies.





Nanotechnology markets - ranges of timelines & suitability to startups







Great Nano Market Opportunities

2005

What happens between now and 2105 is harder to predict

Politics has become a key driver

### **Predictions for 2105** 2155

- Energy Generation
  - Nuclear Fusion large powerplants
  - Solar, Wind and Direct Bioconversion
- Energy Storage Conversion
   Fuel Cells & ?Capacitors? & ?
- Nanomanufacturing

   Nano catalysts & assembly
- Water Purification from Seawater
  - Nano-membranes
- Medical Therapeutics
  - Embryo DNA mod prevents disease
  - Replacement organs thru stem cells
- Medical Devices/Equipment
  - DNA Diagnostics and Treatment
- Communications
  - >10 Gbps stationary & 100 Mbps mobile



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- NanoBio Using nano to enhance biology
  - Systems for inexpensive/fast disease diagnosis
  - Devices for <u>disease treatment & management</u>
  - Molecules and organisms to correct environmental problems
  - Targeted delivery of therapeutic agents new or existing
  - DNA customized therapeutic agents
- Nano-devices/molecules Enhanced w/ nano
  - <u>Wireless sensor systems</u> for environmental monitoring
  - Competitive Systems for solar energy without subsidies
  - <u>Fuel cell</u> systems competitive to gas/oil without subsidies
  - Nano membranes for efficient water cleaning.
  - Building, machinery and people health monitoring sensors
  - <u>Plastic electronics</u> to provide affordable uses for everyone
  - <u>UWB devices</u> for affordable high density & data-rate



1 - Nanotech provides endless opportunities for entrepreneurs seeking to change the world and generate wealth.

2 - **Focus on learning** as much as possible in one field and develop modest understanding of other fields.

3 - **Choose your opportunity wisely** based on skill set, market need, barriers to entry, technology maturity, etc.

4 - Devise plans to move along as far as practical without venture funding - SBIRs, Grants, Contracts, Customers, and F<sup>3</sup>

### **Create / Collaborate /**

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- www.alameda.com, Alameda Capital
- www.nano.gov, NNI site
- www.blueribbonnano.org, California Blue Ribbon Task Force on Nanotechnology
- **www.sbirworld.gov**, listing of many federal R&D grant opportunities from all 11 SBIR/STTR agencies
- **www.grants.gov**, listing of grant programs from 26 federal agencies
- http://g-jgreenwood.home.att.net/SBIR.htm, award winning training group for SBIR proposals
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