

Call for expressions of interest

Background:

The Nanotechnology Industries Association (NIA) is a Brussels-based, global organisation working with its members to promote the safe development and commercialisation of nanomaterials and technologies. (For more information, please visit www.nanotechia.org).

Zeon Corporation is a world leader in specialty elastomers, polymers, and specialty chemicals. The company is one of the top producers of polymers in the world, operating a global network of plants in Asia and North America, with research and development laboratories in Japan, Singapore, China, and the United States. (For more information, please visit www.zeon.co.jp).

Call:

In the context of the work it is doing to support industry in contributing to the delivery of the EU Chemicals Strategy for Sustainability, NIA is launching, on behalf of Zeon, a call for expressions of interest for the development of a protocol (*in chemico/in vitro* strategies) for an abiotic test on carbon nanotubes degradation.

Interested parties are invited to apply either individually or as a consortium; in case the proposal is submitted by a consortium, a leading party shall be identified as the main contractor and sole interlocutor of NIA/Zeon for the duration of the contract. It will be the responsibility of the main contractor to ensure the respect of the contract terms.

The contractor will have discretion on the selection of the methodology to be used, to be then discussed and agreed with Zeon Corporation. The IP generated in the course of the work will remain the property of Zeon Corporation, which undertakes to make it further accessible.

The duration of this contract is one year, and the maximum proposed budget €50,000.

Deadline for applications and timeframe:

Expressions of interest should reach NIA by EOB Brussels time on Friday 3 March. It is envisaged that selection of the contractor and contract formalities will take place immediately afterwards, with a view to start the work in April.

How to apply:

To apply, please send the completed application form as well as two/three relevant publications to chiara.venturini@nanotechia.org within the above timeframes. You can contact the same address for any questions you may have.

Evaluation process:

Each application will be scored against the below criteria, and the applicant with the highest overall score will be awarded the contract. In the case of a tie, interviews will be organized with the short-listed applicants to further discuss their proposals.

Criterion	Max. possible score
Feasibility of the proposed approach	20
Strength and competence of the proposed team	20
Value for money	10