

Fred Klaessig is currently with Pennsylvania Bio Nano Systems, a small firm focusing on reference materials used in investigating chromatographic effects at the nanoscale.

In recent years, he was first the Technical Director for Aerosil & Silanes and later the Business Director for the Aerosil Business Line, which are currently part of the Inorganic Materials Business Unit of Evonik Degussa GmbH. His assignments ranged from commercial overview (Product Management, Production, Sales) to technical responsibilities involving customer support, new product introduction, liaison with the R&D Department in Germany and regulatory matters. AEROSIL® is a trade name for fumed silica, which has been manufactured for 60 years and which is often cited as an example of a nanoparticle. Fumed silica, fumed titania and other fumed metal oxides are utilized in many fields for reinforcement, rheology control, abrasion and UV absorption. In recent years, the great interest in nanotechnology has raised safety and registration concerns about materials of this class. These issues, both everyday technology and EHS, led to his involvement in ASTM (E56), ISO (TC229) and industry organizations addressing these broader topics.

Fred received a B.Sc. in Chemistry from the University of California, Berkeley and a Ph.D. in Physical Chemistry from Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute. His earlier industrial experiences were with Bio Rad Laboratories as a Quality Control Chemist and various R&D management positions at Betz Laboratories, now a division of GE Water Services, where his responsibilities involved scale, corrosion and microbiological control in many chemical industrial processes.