



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

University College London to explore silica Nanospring™-based microreactors

Moscow, Idaho, USA - Aug 30, 2011 – [University College London \(UCL\)](#) and [GoNano Technologies, Inc. \(GNT\)](#) entered an agreement to evaluate GNT's Nanosprings in microreactors. The project, headed by Professor Asterios Gavriilidis of UCL's Department of Chemical Engineering, will utilize the high accessible surface area (350 m²/g) of silica Nanosprings to enhance the performance of heterogeneous catalytic reactions. The project will characterize the geometrical characteristics, catalyst loading, and catalyst particle size on the performance of Nanospring-based microreactors.

The project will utilize two routes to incorporate Nanospring structure and catalyst into microreactors. First, GNT will directly process Nanosprings in a silicon-based microreactor channel, followed by the deposition of noble metal catalysts. Second, GNT will grow Nanosprings on silicon or glass coupons followed by catalyst deposition on coated and non-coated Nanosprings. The target reactions are oxidations of alcohols, which are of importance in bulk as well as fine chemicals manufacture.

“The properties of silica Nanosprings’ will enable us to study the performance of microreactors in terms of activity and selectivity, and compare them with those obtained on standard catalysts,” stated Professor Gavriilidis. “Our expectation is that Nanosprings will enhance the catalytic oxidation of alcohols using microstructured reactors by gas phase or gas-liquid phase reactions.”

“This collaboration will help determine the commercial viability of Nanosprings in microreactors,” affirmed Tim Kinkeade, GoNano’s Chief Executive Officer. “Through the enhancement of active surface area, 1,500 times over uncoated silicon, and our capacity to functionalize the Nanosprings with a full spectrum of active catalysts, we anticipate transformational advancement in reactor performance.”



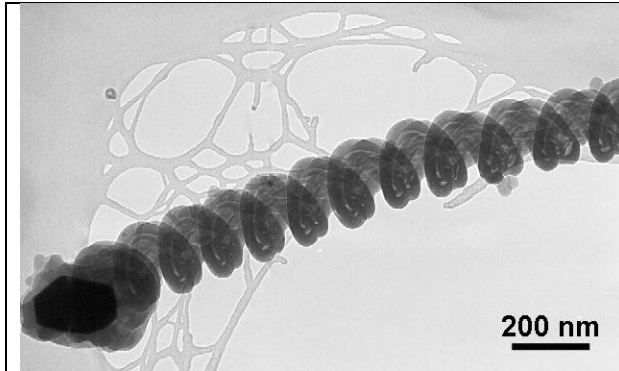
About University College London

Described by the Sunday Times as an ‘intellectual powerhouse with a world-class reputation,’ UCL is consistently ranked as one of the top three multifaculty universities in Europe and features among the top universities worldwide. There are currently [21 Nobel prizewinners](#) among UCL’s alumni and former staff. There have been at least one Nobel Laureate from the UCL community every decade since the establishment of the Nobel Prizes in 1901.

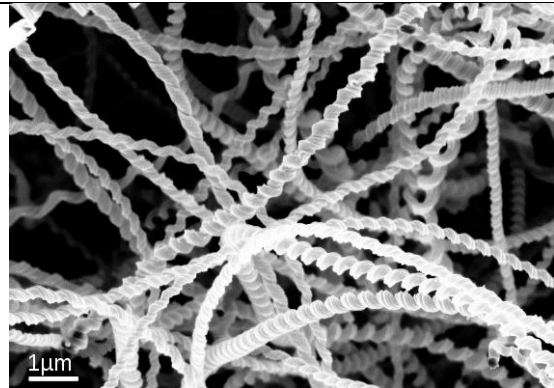
UCL was founded in 1826 as a radically different university, opening up English higher education for the first time to people of all beliefs and social backgrounds. This radical tradition remains alive today. The University’s research strategy commits it to addressing UCL’s ‘[Grand Challenges](#)’, by working together right across the university in order to tackle the problems that face the University today. Over 21,000 students are currently enrolled at this prestigious university.

About GoNano Technologies

GoNano develops and manufactures environmentally friendly high surface area silica Nanosprings for pollution control, catalysis, composites and sensory technologies. The company’s patent-pending nanomaterials provide a scalable, industry compatible, low cost platform for highly efficient solutions. More information may be found at www.gonano-9.com. GoNano Technologies, Inc. can be reached at 208.892.2000.



*Figure 1: TEM image of a silica Nanospring.
Scale bar is 200 nm.*



*Figure 2: Fe-SEM Image of a Nanosprings
mat. Scale bar is 1 μm.*

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