

**S1.6.4 A PERSPECTIVE ON NANOFIBERS FOR FILTRATION & SEPARATION:
PAST PRESENT & FUTURE**

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Nanofiber technology has been around for almost four hundred years, yet there usage in filtration applications is not clearly indicative of a technology of the ages.

In this presentation, we will briefly reflect on the history of nanofibers, followed by a summary of the current technologies that are used to produce nanofibers and the filtration applications that are currently in use or being explored. The presentation will then end with a futuristic perspective on where this technology is headed and what the major drivers may be.

Certain technologies will be presented such as Electrospinning, Electro-blowing, Force spinning, Melt-blowing, etc. along with a listing of companies that are publicly known to own and/or utilize these technologies. A perspective on strengths and limitations (opportunities) of each will be addressed.

Opportunities will be discussed as we project on how nanofiber producing technology and resultant media/products continue to advance.