



Department of

Polymer Engineering



Thermosetting
Composites

Curing



$(30 \times 30 \times 40 \text{ cm}^3)$



1 or 2 Components
Injection system



RTM

*Convection
Ovens*



$(75 \times 75 \times 100 \text{ cm}^3)$



Autoclave

Characterization of resins



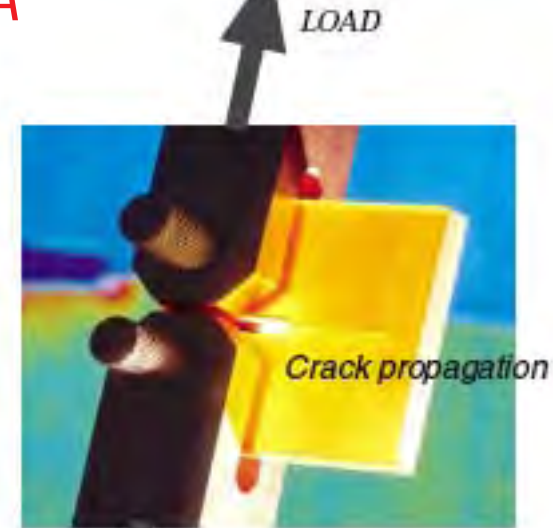
MDSC



DMA



Fracture Mechanics



Mechanical Testing

Fracture toughness & E-modulus



Rheometer



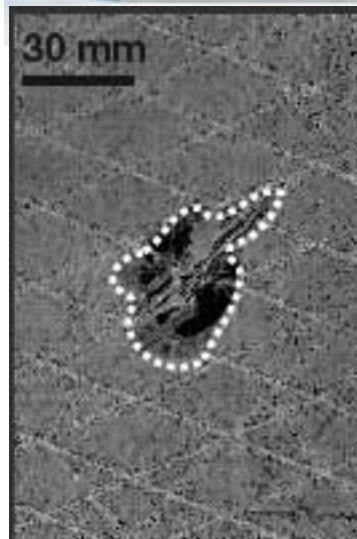
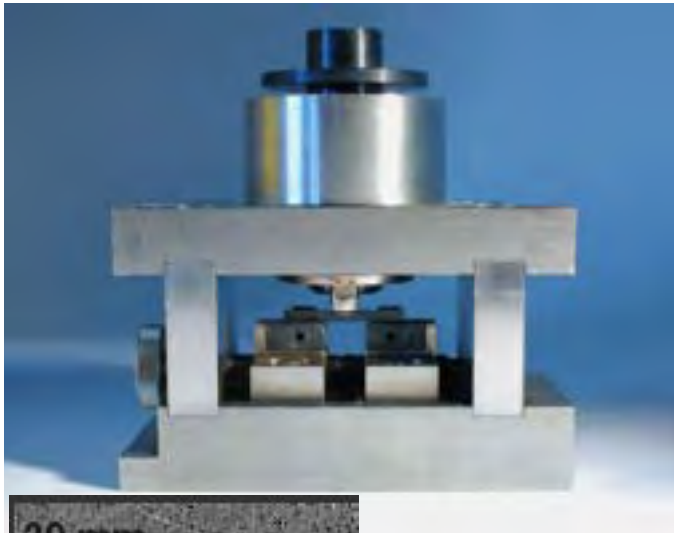
FT-IR



Composite Testing

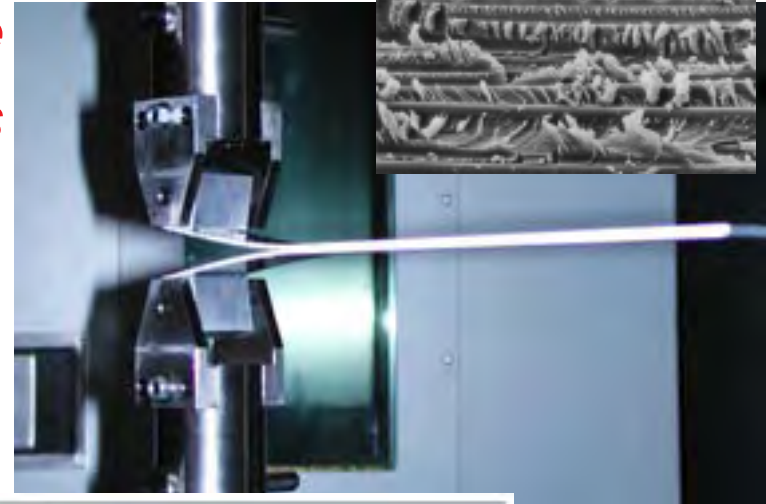


Quasi-Static



Impact & Ultrasound

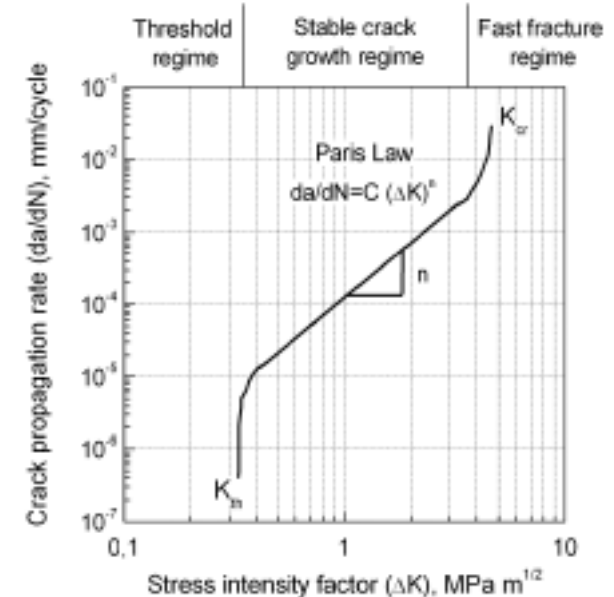
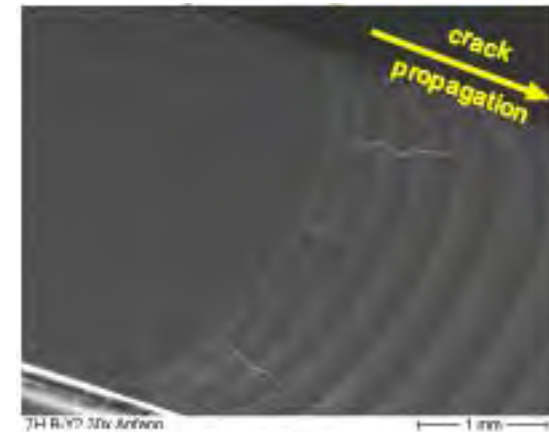
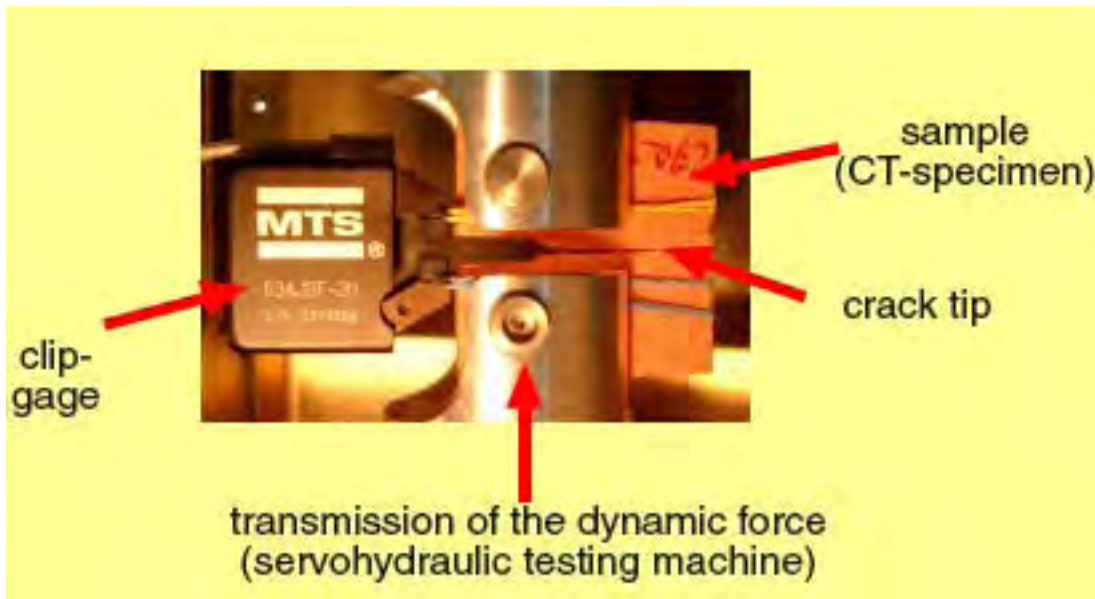
Fracture Mechanics



Compression after impact

Cyclic loading - Fatigue crack growth (da/dN)

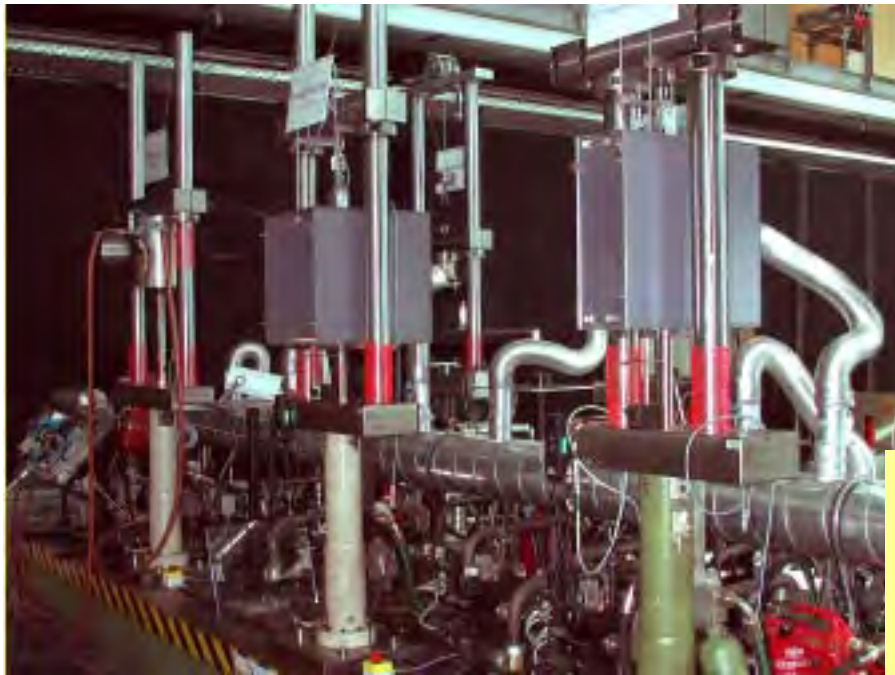
Evaluation of crack growth under dynamic load



Cyclic loading - Fatigue of Composites



Hysteresis Measurements

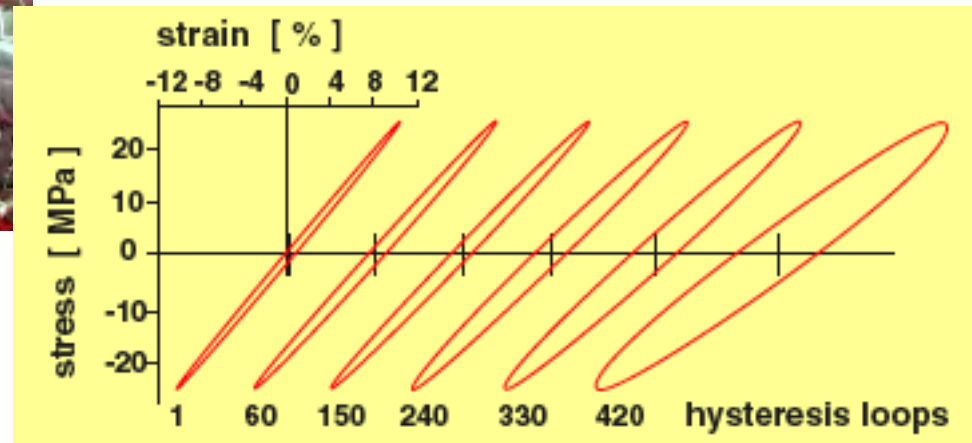


Servo-hydraulic Test Machines

Testing of Composite Bicycle Seat



Hysteresis Loops

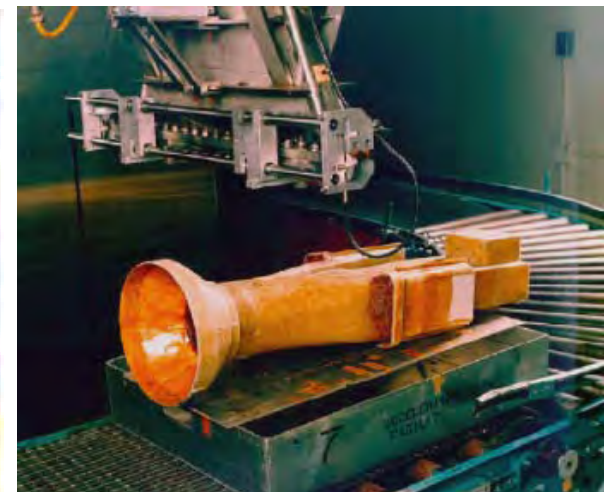
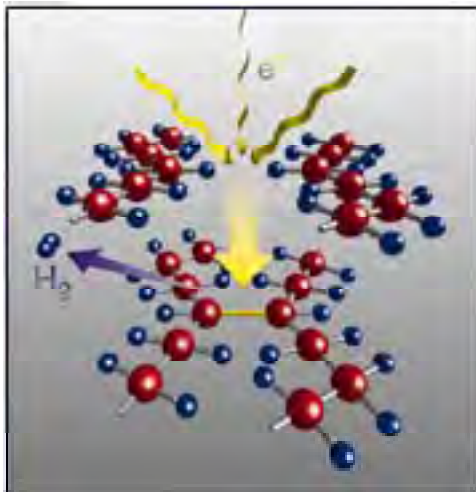


Main Research Fields



- *Fast Curing Resins*
 - *Resin Modification*
 - *Flame Retardancy*
 - *Stitched Preforms*

Electron Beam Curable Epoxy Resins



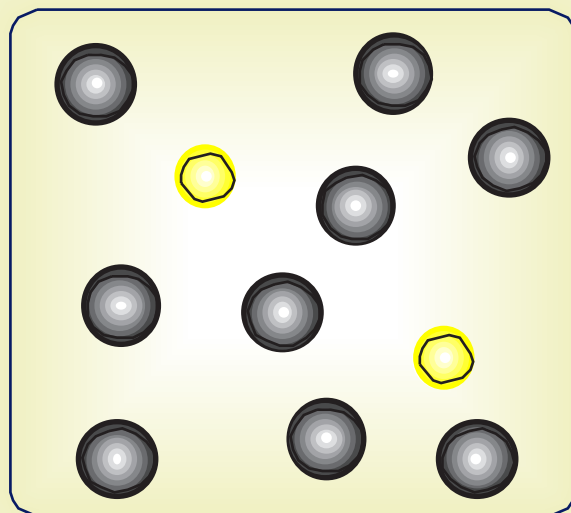
Electron Beam Curing of Composites



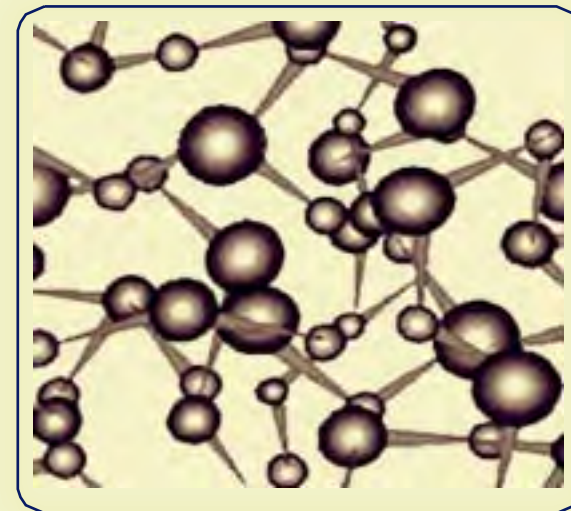
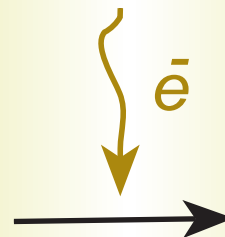
- *IN LINE PRODUCTION*

- *ROOM TEMPERATURE PROCESS*

- *CURING OF COMPOSITES IN MINUTES*



Resin + Initiator



Crosslinked network

Innovative Resins for Rotor Blades in Wind Energy



Innovative Resins for Rotor Blades



*Current manufacturing method: Infusion process.
Curing Cycle: approximately 24 h at 70°C*

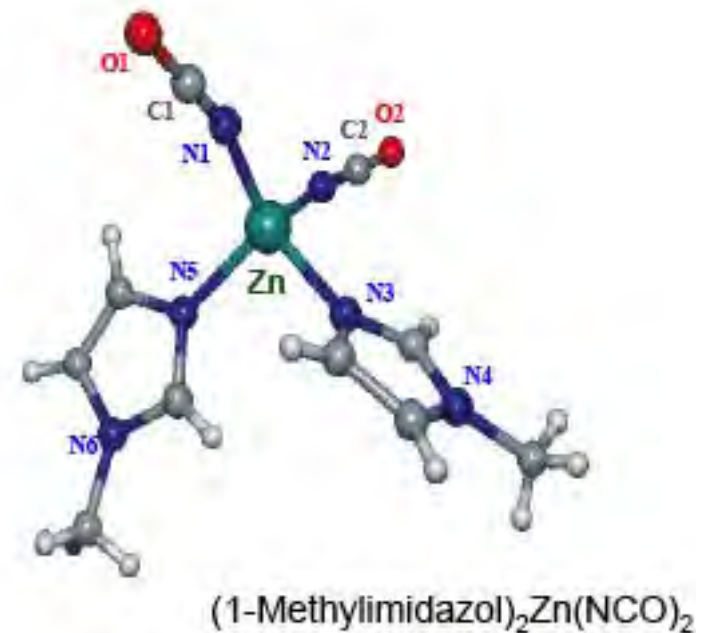
Objective: Development of fast curing resin systems for infusion, with equivalent or better mechanical behaviour



Infusion process

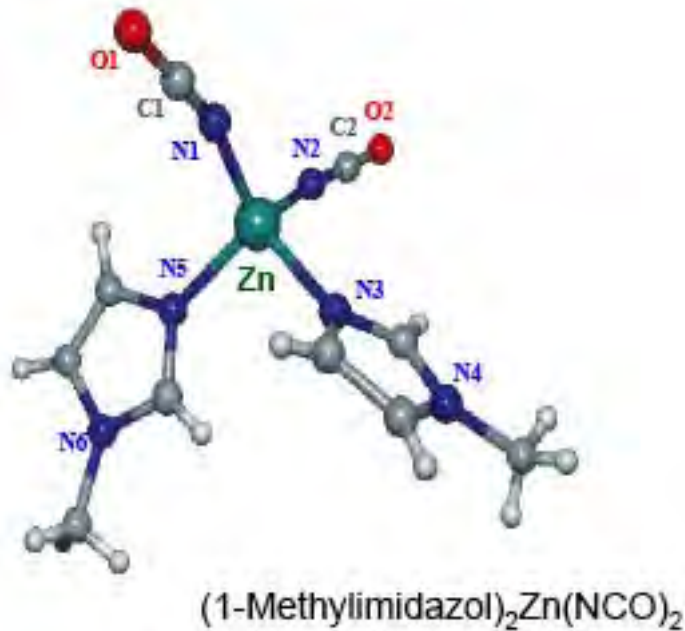


RTM resins systems based on thermal latent catalysts





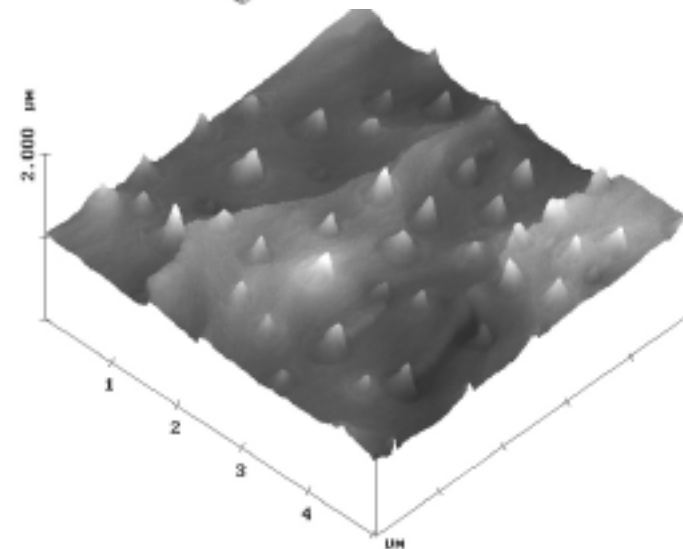
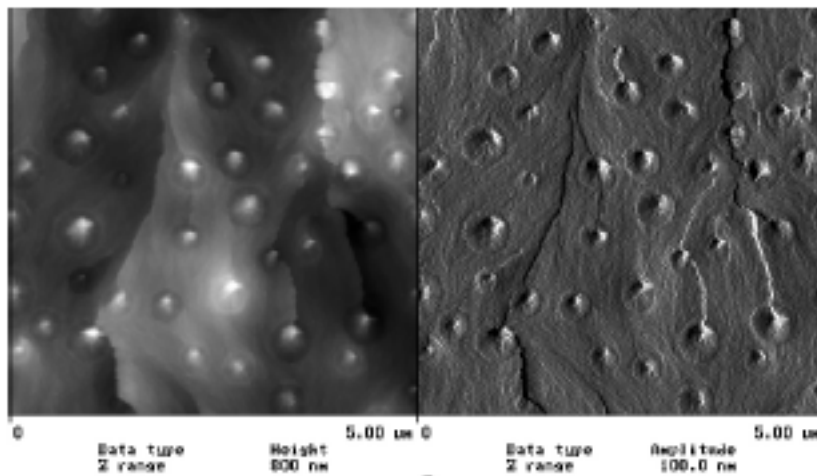
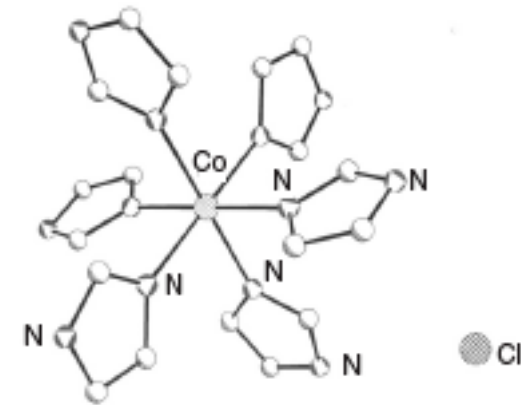
Thermal latent metal-organic catalysts for curing of Epoxy



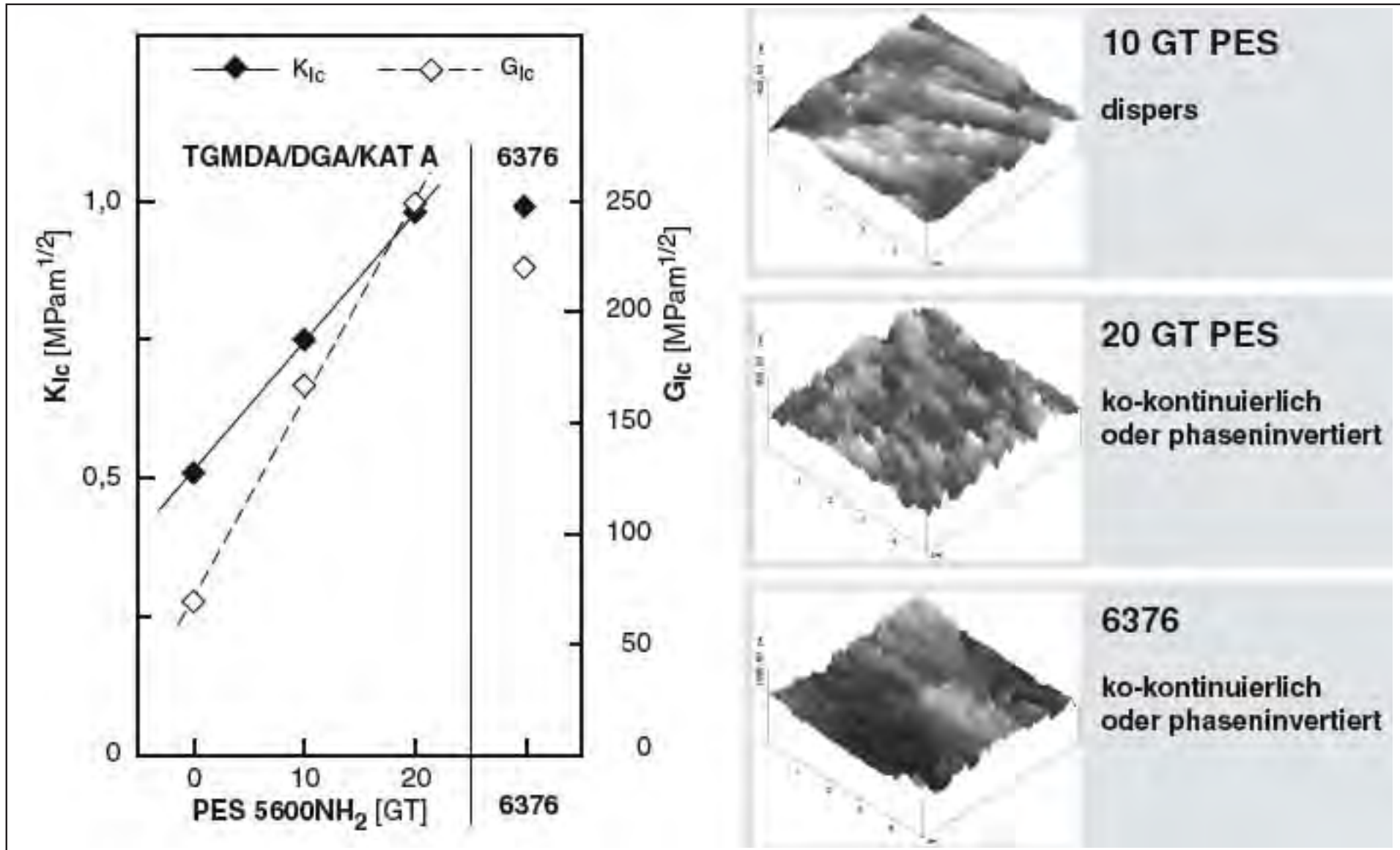
- HIGH REACTIVITY

- THERMAL STABILITY

Toughness Modification of KAT-resins



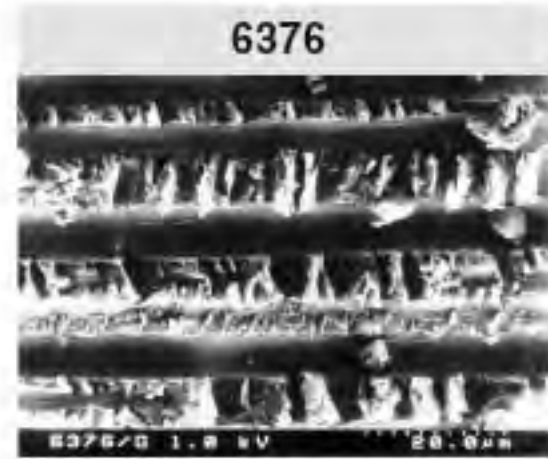
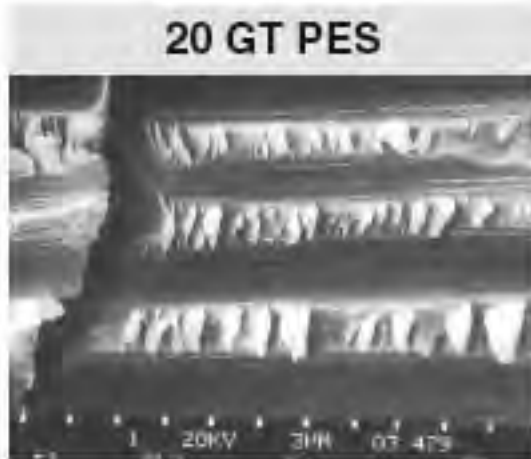
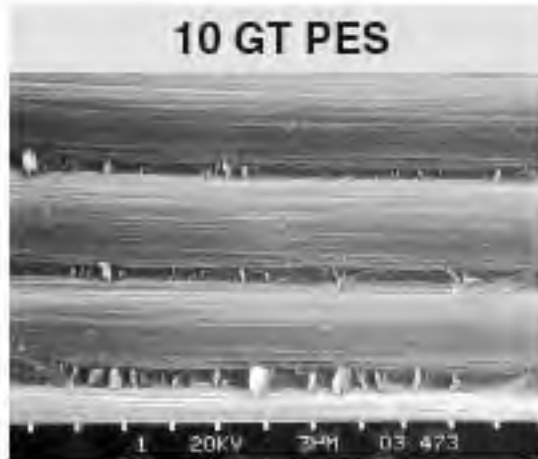
Toughness modification of KAT - resins



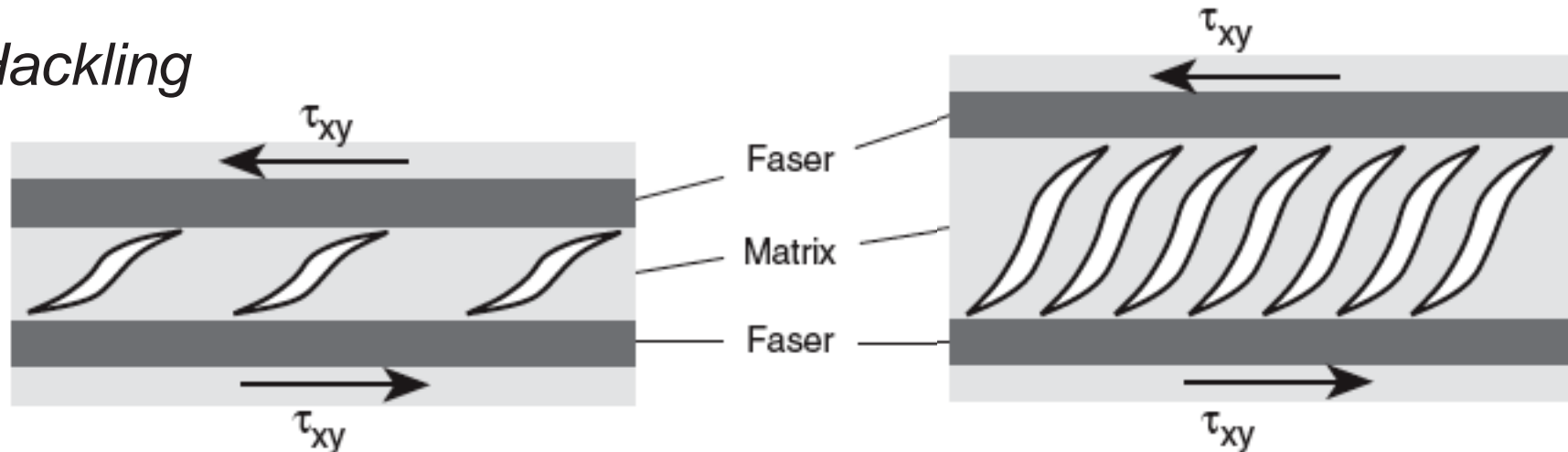
Toughness modification of KAT - resins



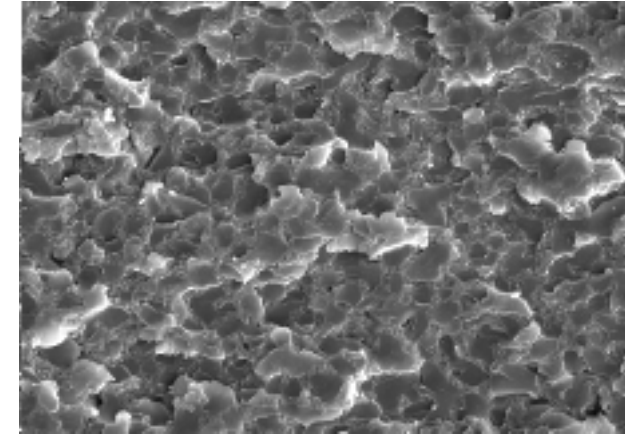
Surface of fracture of Composites



Hackling



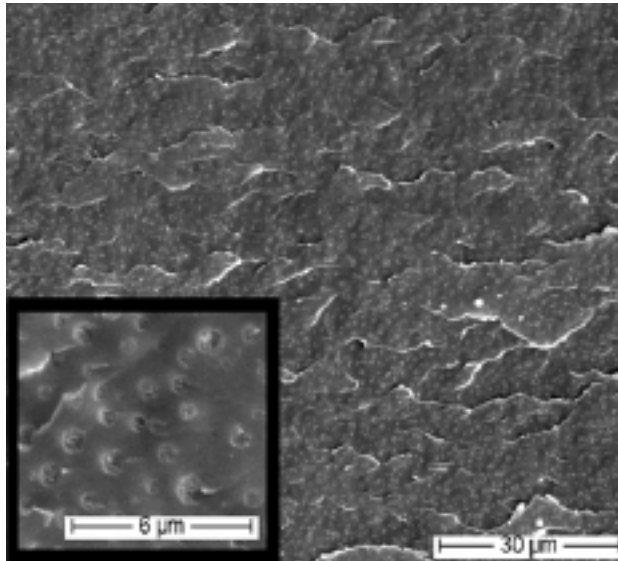
Highly Toughened Epoxy Resins



Matrix Materials for Aerospace Applications



Toughness Modification of Epoxy Resins



Epoxy / Block-Copolymer Blends

High Toughness

Low Viscosity



*High performance
Matrix for CFRC*

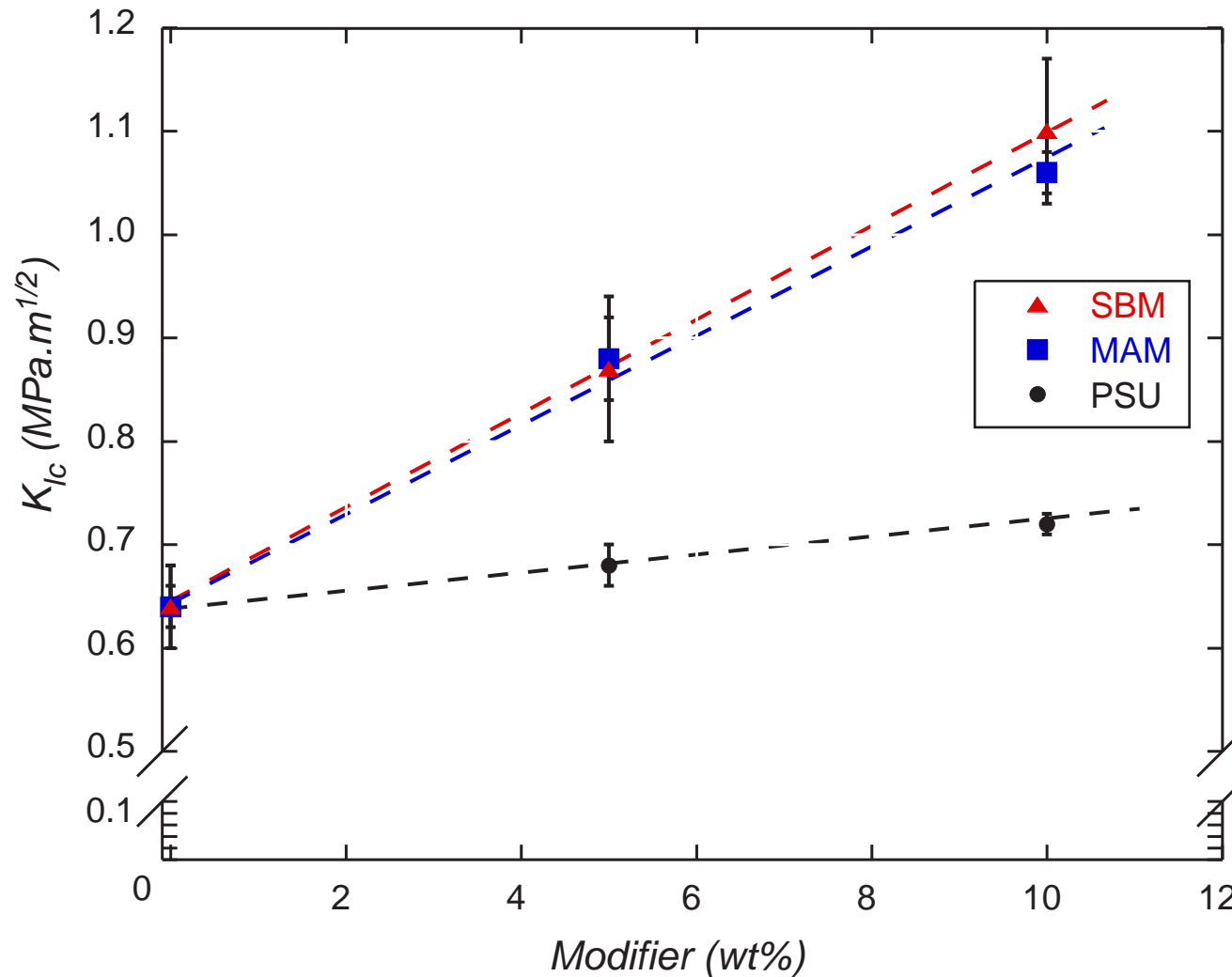
RTM



Toughness Modification of Epoxy Resins



Toughening Effect of Block-Copolymers in RTM6



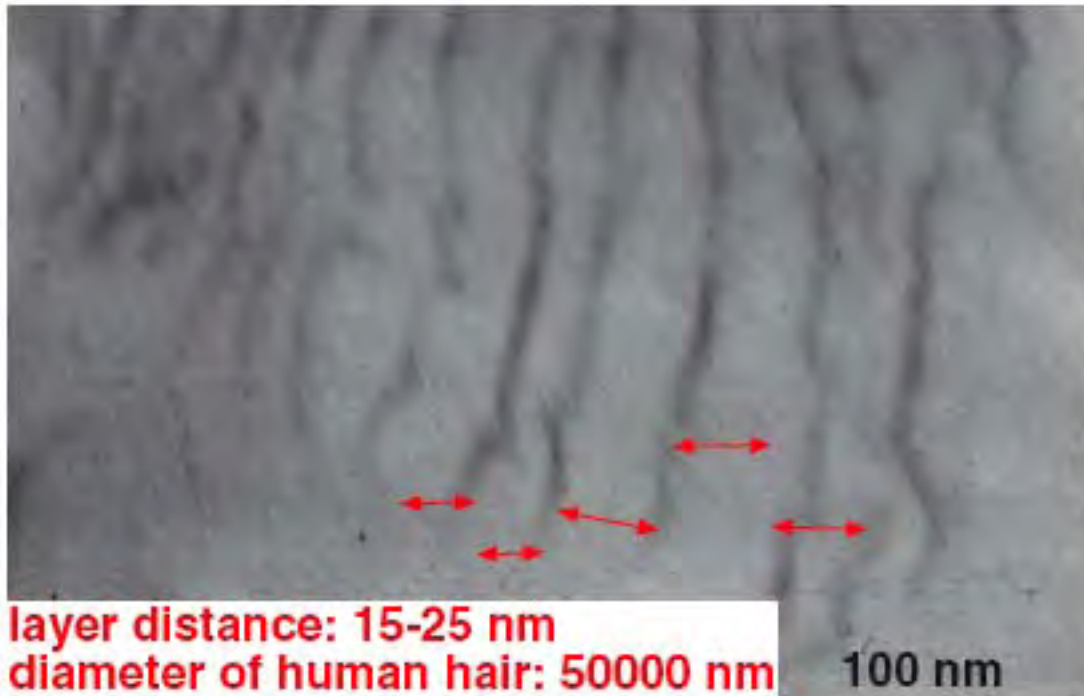
Nanocomposites for High Voltage Insulation



Nanocomposites for Electrical Insulation

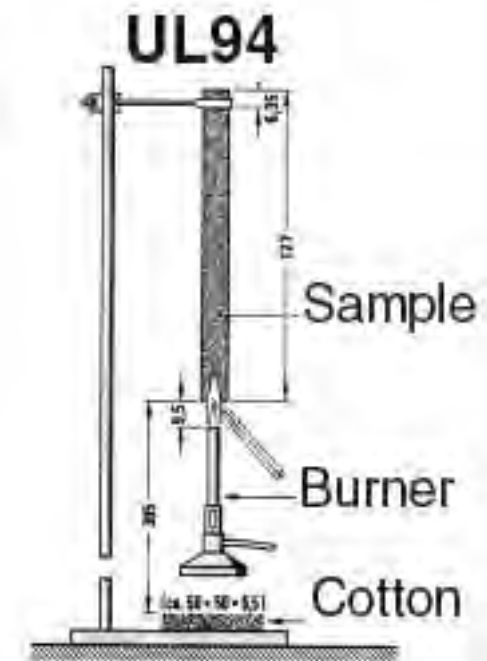
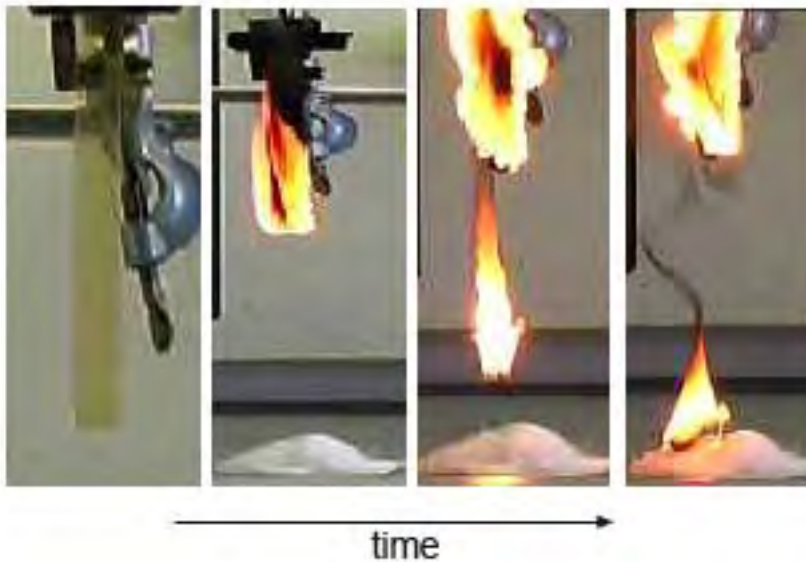


Building a barrier against harmful discharge by Layered Nanostructures



Novel Insulation Material reinforced with Nanoclays

Organophosphorus Flame Retardants

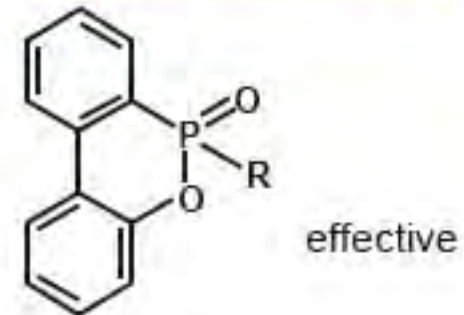
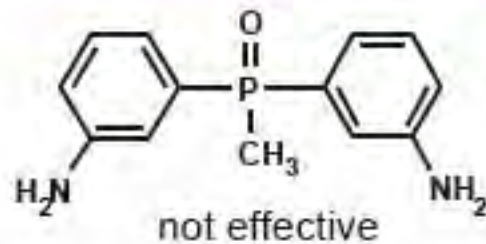


Organo-phosphorus Compounds



● novel flame retardants

- ◇ proofed: effectiveness of phosphorus as flame retardant
- ◇ effective and not-effective chemical structures identified

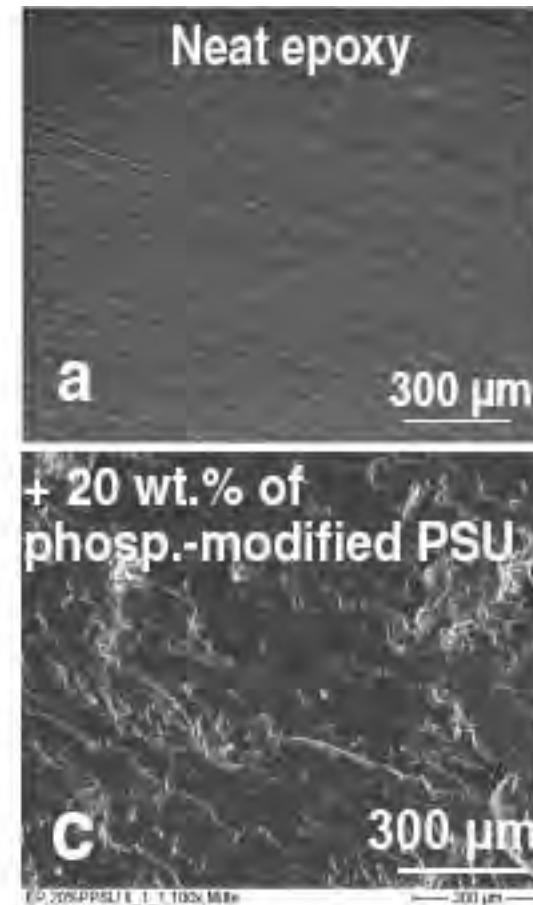
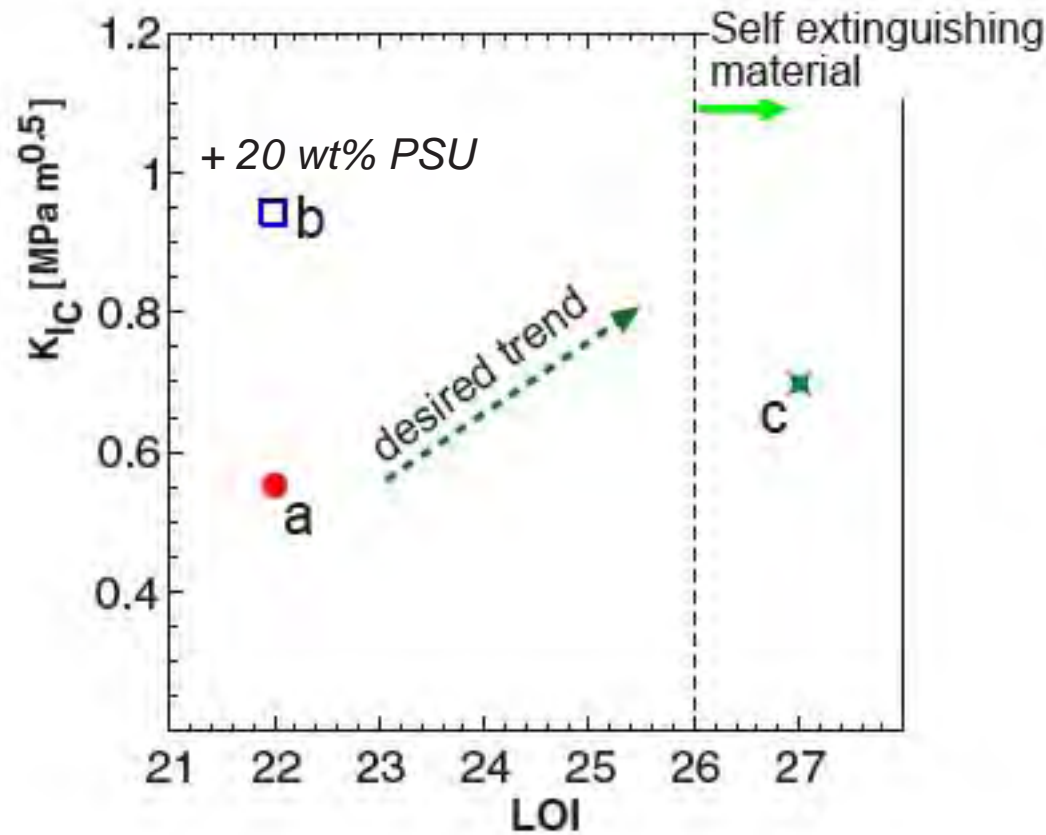


- ◇ extended time to ignition
- ◇ lower formation of smoke and smoke density
- ◇ high T_g
- ◇ modular system possible

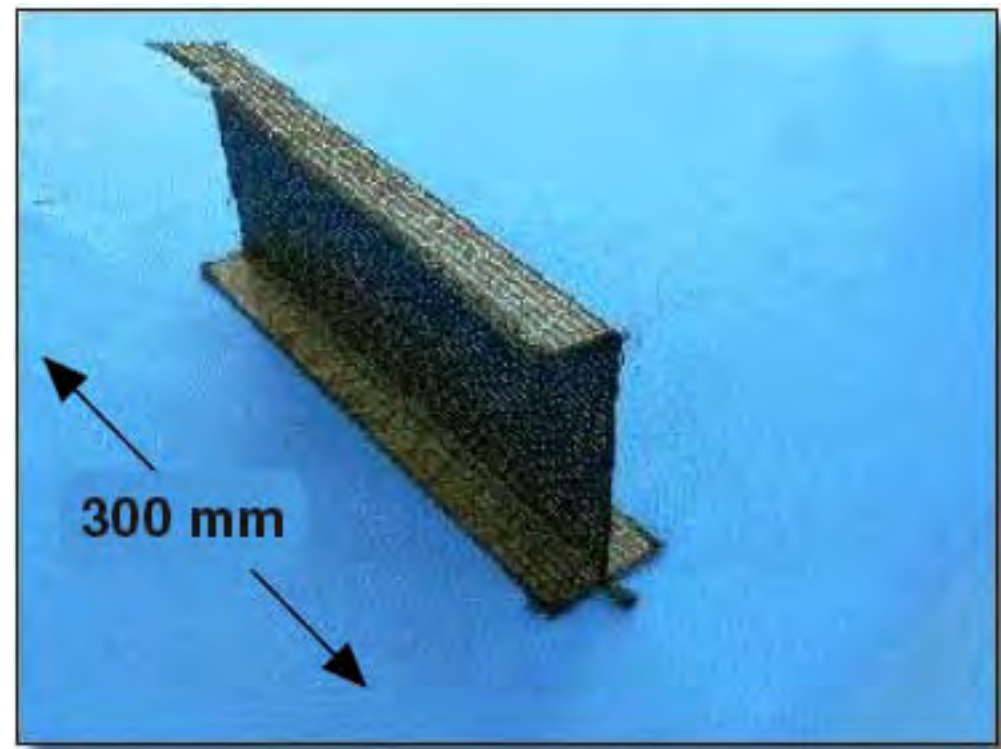
Organo-phosphorus Compounds



Flame Retardancy combined to Toughness Modifier



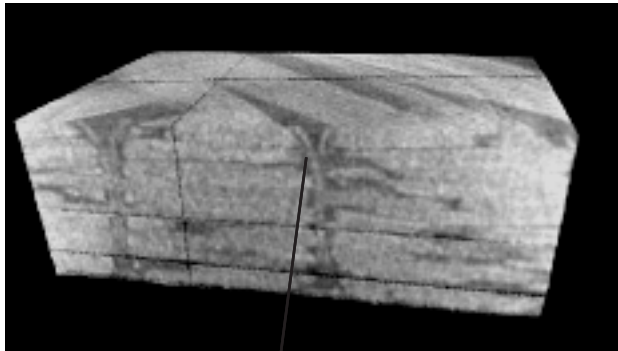
Stitched Preforms for CFRC



Stitched Preforms for CFRC



Investigation of innovative preform stitching for RTM



Yarn for Preform Stitching



RTM Mould