# **Aeroplastics**<sup>™</sup>

### Reduction in Heat Transfer of Structural Polymers

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Presentation for Sharing with Technology Transfer Evaluation Partners

#### **AeroPlastics**<sup>™</sup>

Aerogel infused thermoplastic polymers

Thermally processing similar to base polymer; low overhead cost for technology development

Composites exhibit a 20-50% decrease in thermal conductivity as measured by Nanoflash<sup>™</sup> Commercially available nanoparticle additives provide adaptable infusion

Extremely wide range of targeted applications

## **Thermal Processing**

#### Aerogel meet Polymer



#### **Cabot Nanogel**

Beads Granules Fine particles



### **Polymer Pellets**

PolyolefinsNylonsPolyetherimides

## **Types of Aerogel**



2.00kV LEI

X 50

Ball Milled Granules 50X 5/12/2008 WD 7mm 9:39:42 100µm NASA IM X 50 2.00kV LEI





# **Thermal Compounding and Processing**

#### Twin Screw Extruder





#### Ribbons (2" & 6"), Rope, Wire coating, and Tubing dies

### **Aeroplastic Tapes**





PA66

VERSIEN 2300

MXD6

2/23/6 VERSIFY 2300 15% REROGEL 2/23/6

> Versify 2300



3/9/2006

Ultem

## **Thermal Processing**

### 50 Ton Injection Molder



Fabrication parts up to 1.9 oz at a maximum of 1 part/20 sec.

### **AeroPlastic Test Articles**





Tensile Test Samples: ASTM D638

Fire Test Samples: UL94



AeroDisk Coaster (3" Diameter, 0.25" thick)

![](_page_7_Picture_7.jpeg)

AeroCup (3" Diameter, 0.25" thick)

### **Characterization**

- Weight loading of Aerogel
  - TGA + Muffle Furnace
- Thermal Conductivity
  - Netzsch Nanoflash
  - Cup Cryostat (LN2 boil-off)
  - Pipe Testing
- Mechanical Properties
  - Instron ASTM D638, DMA
- Brittleness Testing
- Gas Diffusion
- Flammability UL94 (in progress)
- Optical Microscopy (slated)

## **Aerogel Loading Data**

### 1 mm Beads with Mixing Screws

Material	Sample Identity	Aerogel Wt % Added	Weight % Achieved	
			TGA (N2)	Muffle Furnace
Nanogel	Cabot Nanogel	100	85.00	98.75
MXD6	L1 MXD6 5% Aero to L2	5	22.51	1.06
	L2 MXD6 Neat	0	18.04	0.09
	T1 MXD6 5% Aero to T2	5	19.53	2.63
	T2 MXD6 Neat	0	15.30	0.05
	T3 MXD6 15% Aero to T2	15		9.65
			TGA (Air)	
PA66	LR27A (PA66 Neat)	0	0.65	0.05
	LR27B (PA66 5% AG)	5	5.47	3.95
	P6N2106 (PA66 Neat)	0	9.38	0.04
	P61A10196 (PA66 1% AG)	1	10.38	
	P65A2226 (PA66 5% AG)	5	14.05	4.51
Versify	Versify 2300 Neat	0	-0.04	0.00
	Versify 2300 5% Aerogel	5	4.71	3.66
	Versify 2300 10% Aerogel	10	7.27	10.00
	Versify 2300 15% Aerogel	15	7.90	
	LR27C (Versify Neat)	0	3.08	0.05
	LR27D (Versify 5% AG)	5	7.13	5.28
	Versify Pipe Sample Neat	0		0.09
	Verisfy Pipe Sample Aerogel	5.8		5.11

## **Aerogel Loading Data**

## with Mixing\* and Kneading Screws

Material	Sample Identity	Aerogel Wt % Added	Weight % Achieved	
			TGA (Air)	Muffle Furnace
Single Extrusions				
PP	102 Disk 6 4-30-8	15	5.83*	
	Ball Milled Aerogel 1-29-8	15	5.52*	
	Granules 6-13-8	15	10.21	
	15 APP 13 3-13-8	15	5.15*	
Versify	Neat	0	0.00*	0.05*
,	Beads 4-24-8	10	7.00*	6.50*
	10 Aero bead disk 10 4-29-8	10	5.50*	
	10 Aero bead disk 7 4-29-8	10	5.47*	
	10 Aero bead disk 4 4-29-8	10	5.52*	
	201 4-25-8	10	2.00*	2.05*
	201 Disk 6 5-1-8	10	1.67*	
	102 4-18-8	15		7.91*
	102 Disk 2 4-18-8	15	3.76*	
	102 Disk 6 4-18-8	15	5.83*	
	102 Tape 4-25-8	10	6.67*	
	Granules 6-13-8	15	7.17	
Double Extrusion w	vith Inection Molding			
PP	PP Neat Disk 11 6-26-8	0	0.83	
	D15% G Pellets 6-13-8	30	22.30	
	D15% G Disk 6 6-17-8	30	22.22	
	D15% G Disk 5 6-13-8	30	22.10	
	D15% 102 Disk 6 6-23-8	30	19.01	
	D15% 102 Pellets 6-23-8	30	20.02	

### **Thermal Conductivity**

#### Netzsch NanoFlash 447

![](_page_11_Picture_2.jpeg)

Preferred specimen size: round (25.4 or 12.7 mm in diameter) or square (8 mm side length)

#### **Specifications:**

Conforms to ASTM E1461 Measuring thermal diffusivity directly Measuring specific heat with reference sample Thermal conductivity =

thermal diffusivity x density x specific heat Xenon flash lamps with InSb IR Detector Temperature Range: ambient - 300 C Thermal diffusivity range: 0.001 - 10 cm^2/s Accuracy: 5% Repeatability: 3%

![](_page_11_Picture_7.jpeg)

### NanoFlash Thermal Conductivity Data

Material	Thermal conductivity (W/mK)	Thermal conductivity reduction from neat
MXD6 neat, sample 1	0.217	
5% aerogel- MXD6, sample 1	0.115	47%
MXD6 neat, sample 2	0.294	
5% aerogel- MXD6, sample 2	0.175	40%
<b>ULTEM</b> neat	0.335	
5% aerogel- ULTEM	0.182	46%
PA66 neat	0.454	
5% aerogel-	0.320	30%
PA66		
PA66 neat	0.292	
5% aerogel- PA66	0.216	26%

#### Cup Cryostat Testing Apparent Thermal Conductivity (k-value)

![](_page_13_Figure_1.jpeg)

- Testing done on disks
  - 3 inch diameter
  - 0.25 inch thickness
- Cold Boundary = 78 K
  - Liquid Nitrogen maintained
- Warm Boundary = 293 K

Heater maintained

![](_page_13_Figure_9.jpeg)

![](_page_13_Figure_10.jpeg)

![](_page_13_Figure_11.jpeg)

#### **Cryogenic Pipe Test Apparatus** PA66 KSC-6 Versify Neat Aerogel TEEK LN<sub>2</sub> in LN<sub>2</sub> out Versi Nea <mark>A66</mark> R B -265Aeroge Thermocouples

### **Cryogenic Pipe Test Demo- Versify Data**

![](_page_15_Figure_1.jpeg)

### **Cryogenic Pipe Test Demo – Versify Data**

![](_page_16_Figure_1.jpeg)

#### **Heated Flow Pipe Test Demo**

![](_page_17_Figure_1.jpeg)

### **Thermal Conductivity Test Results**

- From the Netzsch Nanoflash data, materials show 40-60% improvement in thermal conductivity with minimum loading
- From the pipe test data using tape fabrication, materials show improved insulating properties at cryogenic temperatures
- From extrusion and injection molding, materials show lowered thermal conductivity with the addition of Aerogel

### **Mechanical Testing**

#### Tensile Testing: ASTM D638 Data

![](_page_19_Picture_2.jpeg)

Material	yield stress (psi)	yield strain (%)	number of samples
MXD6 neat	$97.0 \pm 11.3$	4.1%	6
5% aerogel-MXD6	$99.3 \pm 8.2$	4.1%	3

#### Mechanical Testing DMA Data

![](_page_20_Figure_1.jpeg)

### Gas Permeability Testing ASTM

![](_page_21_Picture_1.jpeg)

#### MOCON Oxtran 2/10

O2 Range: 0.1 - 144,000 cc/m - day

Data provided by Porous Materials Inc.

PMI Oxygen Gas Diffusion Tests

Versify-5% Aerogel run twice Data within machine error No O2 gas permeability

![](_page_21_Figure_6.jpeg)

## **Mechanical Compression Testing**

![](_page_22_Picture_1.jpeg)

![](_page_22_Picture_2.jpeg)

![](_page_22_Picture_3.jpeg)

### **Valve Seal Compression Testing**

![](_page_23_Figure_1.jpeg)

### SUMMARY

- Adding of aerogel to polymer resins decrease thermal conductivity or overall rates in heat transfer
- No significant reduction in mechanical properties such as tensile strength was observed in data collected
- Enable wider use of thermoplastics at cryogenic or lower temperatures –for certain matrices test results indicate the nanocomposite to be more elastic and less brittle than base polymer at low temperatures
- Industry-standard polymer processing methods are used; process is suitable for molded and extruded product forms, film and fiber products