# TOUGHNESS ENHANCEMENT OF POLYAMIDE 12 WITH NATURAL RUBBER VIA NON-REACTIVE AND REACTIVE COMPATIBILIZATIONS

Saravalee Saengthaveep

A Dissertation Submitted in Partial Fulfillment of the Requirements for the Degree of Doctor of Philosophy The Petroleum and Petrochemical College, Chulalongkorn University in Academic Partnership with The University of Michigan, The University of Oklahoma, and Case Western Reserve University 2015

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I28368800 \$ 580060

Thesis Title:	Toughness Enhancement of Polyamide 12 with Natural
	Rubber via Non-Reactive and Reactive Compatibilizations
By:	Saravalee Saengthaveep
Program:	Polymer Science
Thesis Advisors:	Assoc. Prof. Rathanawan Magaraphan
	Prof. Sadhan C. Jana

Accepted by The Petroleum and Petrochemical College, Chulalongkorn University, in partial fulfillment of the requirements for the Degree of Doctor of Philosophy.

..... College Dean

(Asst. Prof. Pomthong Malakul)

#### **Thesis Committee:**

(Asst. Prof. Pomthong Malakul)

(Prof. Sadhan C. Jana)

Hallaihan M

(Asst. Prof. Hathaikarn Manuspiya)

Magany

(Assoc. Prof. Rathanawan Magaraphan)

..... (Asst. Prof. Manit Nithitanakul)

. . . . .

(Assoc. Prof. Ittipol Jangchud)

#### ABSTRACT

5082004063: Polymer Science Program

Saravalee Saengthaveep: Toughness Enhancement of Polyamide 12 with Natural Rubber via Non-Reactive and Reactive Compatibilizations.

Thesis Advisors: Assoc. Prof. Rathanawan Magaraphan, and Prof. Sadhan C. Jana 244 pp.

Keywords: Polyamide12 (Nylon12)/ Natural rubber (NR)/ Compatibilizer/ Rheological properties/ Phase morphology/ Mechanical properties

This research work studied toughness enhancement of polyamide12 (Nylon12) by adding natural rubber (NR) via melt blending process. Copolymers of polystyrene/natural rubber (PS/NR) and polystyrene/maleated natural rubber (PS/MNR) were used as non-reactive and reactive compatibilizes, respectively. The result revealed that the non-reactive compatibilizer improved the compatibility between Nylon12 and NR via physical linkage, leading to a good dispersion of NR domains in Nylon12 matrix and the enhancement of impact energy by a factor of 3. The reactive compatibilizer was then used to increase the interfacial adhesion between Nylon12 and NR via chemical linkage. However, different mixing procedures of PS/MNR copolymer as well as maleic anhydride loading affected to crosslinked NR (gel) content and MA grafting efficiency. The result showed that PS/MNR copolymer prepared by two-step mixing and low MA loading had a lower gel content and a higher MA grafting efficiency. The reactive compatibilizer with various contents also affected to the properties of Nylon12/NR blend. The formation of succinimide linkages via an imidization reaction at Nylon12/NR interfaces caused an increase of shear viscosity and a reduction of extrudate swell while viscosity ratio approached to 1 with increasing PS/MNR content up to 7 phr. The rubber particle appeared to be spherical with diameter and interparticle distance less than 0.5 and 0.3  $\mu$ m, respectively. The compatibilized blends showed the enhancement of mechanical properties especially impact energy increased by a factor of 5.

# บทคัดย่อ

สราวลี แสงทวีป: การเพิ่มความเหนียวของพอลิเอไมด์สิบสองด้วยขางธรรมชาติโดยผ่าน ความเข้ากันได้แบบไม่มีและแบบมีปฏิกิริยา (Toughness Enhancement of Polyamide 12 with Natural Rubber via Non-Reactive and Reactive Compatibilizations) อ. ที่ปรึกษา : รศ. ดร. รัตนวรรณ มกรพันธุ์ และ ศ. ดร. ชัดฮาน ซี จานา 244 หน้า

้งานวิจัยนี้ศึกษาเกี่ยวกับการเพิ่มความเหนียวของพอลิเอไมด์สิบสอง (ในลอนสิบสอง) ้ด้วยการเติมยางธรรมชาติโดยผ่านกระบวนการผสมแบบสภาวะหลอมเหลว โดยมีพอลิเมอร์ร่วม ของพอลิสไตรีนกับยางธรรมชาติและพอลิเมอร์ร่วมของพอลิสไตรีนกับยางธรรมชาติมาเลเอต ทำหน้าที่เป็นสารเชื่อมประสานทั้งแบบไม่มีปฏิกิริยาและแบบมีปฏิกิริยา ตามลำดับ ผลพบว่าสาร เชื่อมประสานแบบไม่มีปฏิกิริยาปรับปรุงความเข้ากันได้ของไนลอนสิบสองและยางธรรมชาติโดย ้ผ่านการเชื่อมโยงทางกายภาพ นำไปสู่การกระจายตัวที่ดีของยางธรรมชาติในในลอนสิบสอง เมทริกซ์และการเพิ่มขึ้นของพลังงานการกระแทกประมาณ 3 เท่า สารเชื่อมประสานแบบมี ้ปฏิกิริยาถูกใช้ต่อมา เพื่อเพิ่มการยึดติดที่พื้นผิวระหว่างในลอนสิบสองและยางธรรมชาติโดยผ่าน การเชื่อมโยงทางเคมี อย่างไรก็ตามกระบวนการผสมพอลิเมอร์ร่วมของพอลิสไตรีนกับยาง ธรรมชาติมาเลเอตที่แตกต่างกัน (การผสมแบบขั้นตอนเดียวและสองขึ้นตอน) รวมทั้งปริมาณ มาเลอิกแอนไฮไดรด์ มีผลต่อปริมาณการเชื่อมโยงของยาง (เจล) และประสิทธิภาพการกราฟต์ มาเลอิกแอนไฮไครด์ ซึ่งผลพบว่าพอลิเมอร์ร่วมของพอลิสไตรีนกับยางธรรมชาติมาเลเอตที่ เตรียมโดยใช้กระบวนการผสมแบบสองขั้นตอนและมาเลอิกแอนไฮไดรด์ในปริมาณต่ำ มีปริมาณ เจลน้อยกว่าและมีประสิทธิภาพการกราฟต์มาเลอิกแอนไฮไครค์สูงกว่า นอกจากนั้นปริมาณของ สารเชื่อมประสานแบบมีปฏิกิริยาที่แตกต่างกันมีผลต่อสมบัติต่างๆ ของพอลิเมอร์ผสมระหว่าง ในลอนสิบสองและยางธรรมชาติด้วย ซึ่งการสร้างการเชื่อมต่อซัคซินิไมด์โดยผ่านปฏิกิริยาอิมิได เซชันที่ส่วนต่อประสานของในลอนสิบสองและยางธรรมชาดิ เป็นซาเหตุของการเพิ่มขึ้นของค่า ้ความหนืดแบบเฉือนและการลดลงของการบวมตัว ขณะที่อัตราส่วนความหนืดมีก่าใกล้เกียงหนึ่ง ้เมื่อเพิ่มปริมาณสารเชื่อมประสานจนถึง 7 ส่วนในร้อยส่วนพอลิเมอร์ อนุภาคของยางจึงมี ้ลักษณะเป็นทรงกลมค้วยขนาดและระยะห่างระหว่างอนุภากที่น้อยกว่า 0.5 และ 0.3 ไมโครเมตร ตามลำคับ พอลิเมอร์ผสมที่ถูกปรับปรุงความเข้ากันได้จึงแสดงสมบัติเชิงกลที่ดีขึ้น โดยเฉพาะ อย่างยิ่งค่าพลังงานการกระแทกเพิ่มขึ้น 5 เท่า

#### ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Appreciation is expressed to those who have made contributions to this dissertation. First I gratefully acknowledge my research advisor, Assoc. Prof. Rathanawan Magaraphan from the Petroleum and Petrochemical College, Chulalongkorn University for giving my invaluable knowledge, exceptional guidance, constant encouragement, as well as opportunity to experience the quality research. Furthermore, I would like to express my gratitude to Prof. Sadhan C. Jana, Former Dean of the Department of Polymer Engineering, The University of Akron for providing my useful advises and suggestions, and for being a truly nice overseas advisor while I did a part of my research at The University of Akron.

I would like to give my special thanks to all faculty members and staffs as well as all members in my research group both from at the Petroleum and Petrochemical College, Chulalongkorn University and from at The University of Akron for their knowledge and assistance.

I am grateful for the partial scholarship and partial funding of the thesis work provided by the Petroleum and Petrochemical College. I also would like to express my gratitude to the Thailand Research Fund through the Royal Golden Jubilee Ph.D. Program (PHD/0101/2551) and Center of Excellence on Petrochemical and Materials Technology for the scholarship and funding. This research work would not be carried out successfully without these financial supports.

I would like to acknowledge Asst. Prof. Pomthong Malakul, Assoc. Prof. Rathanawan Magaraphan, Prof. Sadhan C. Jana, Asst. Prof. Manit Nithitanakul, Asst. Prof. Hathaikarn Manuspiya, and Assoc. Prof. Ittipol Jangchud for being my dissertation committees, making valuable comments and suggestions.

Finally, I wish to express my deep gratitude to my family for their love, understanding, encouragement and very supportive during all these years spent for my Ph.D. study.

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#### **ABBREVIATIONS**

ATR-FTIR	Attenuated Total Reflection-Fourier Transform Infrared
	Spectroscopy
DCP	Dicumyl Peroxide
DSC	Differential Scanning Calorimetry
MA	Maleic Anhydride
NR	Natural Rubber
PA12	Polyamide 12 (Nylon12)
PS	Polystyrene
PS/MNR	Polystyrene/Maleated Natural Rubber Copolymer
PS/NR	Polystyrene/Natural Rubber Copolymer
SEM	Scanning Electron Microscopy
TGA	Thermogravimetric Analysis

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#### LIST OF SYMBOLS

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$T_g$	Glass Transition Temperature
$T_m$	Melting Temperature
$T_c$	Crystallization Temperature
Xc	Degree of Crystallinity
τ	Shear Stress
Ý	Shear Rate
η	Viscosity
n	Power Law Index
K	Flow Consistency Index or Viscosity Coefficient Index
Т	Temperature
R	Universal Gas Constant
$E_{\rm a}$	Flow Activation Energy
D	Diameter
$D_{ip}$	Interparticle Distance
$\phi_c$	Volume Fraction of Continuous Phase
$\phi_d$	Volume Fraction of Disperse Phase
φ <sub>r</sub>	Volume Fraction of Rubber Phase