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Optimization of thermal and mechanical properties of unsaturated polyester resin as a binder in polymer concrete for manufacturing precision tool machine baseHeader Haddad¹ and Igor Sbarski²¹ Swinburne University of Technology, Australia² RMIT University, Australia

This study investigates the effect of unsaturated polyester resin chemical composition on the coefficient of thermal expansion, damping properties, flexural strength, tensile strength and hardness. The resin was used as binder in polymer concrete for manufacturing the base of precision tool machine. Resins of various ratios of styrene-ARAPOL and methyl methacrylate (MMA)-ARAPOL were made and curing kinetics were followed using viscosity measurements and exothermic reaction temperature profile. The resins were studied using dynamic mechanical analysis and in house thermal expansion measuring devices. It was found that ARAPOL-MMA (60:40) has the highest damping factor 5.46%, and the thermal expansion coefficient of $7.98 \times 10^{-5}/^{\circ}\text{C}$. This composition also has the optimum flexural strength and tensile strength at 128 MPa and 5.86 MPa.

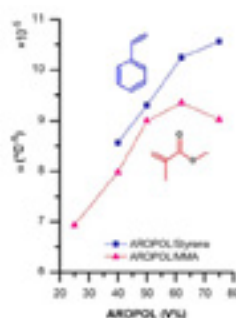


Figure: Coefficient of thermal expansion of MMA and styrene – ARAPOL resins.

Biography

Header Haddad has expertise in evaluation and passion in improving the thermosetting polymer for composite materials in manufacturing the base of precision tool machine. His approach is based on application requirements and how to develop new methods to optimize the composite material through polymer and the aggregates of the composite materials. Another applications that Header researched are injection moulding and blow moulding. Headers research is all industrial based in connection with well-known companies such as ANCA.

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