Layered materials: from tiny things to advanced applications

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Liquid exfoliation of graphene



Small but *no defects, no oxides*

Use exfoliated graphene to reinforce composites



Applications: Composite strain sensors



Dynamic strain sensing



High rate sensing



Bio-mechanical motion sensing



Simple, cheap and very effective

Exfoliation of inorganic layered compounds

There are ~500 layered materials with all different properties



GaS, GaSe etc





Metals Semiconductors Insulators Electro-chemically active Luminescent Mechanically strong Photo-sensitive Superconductors Charge density waves Etc etc

Liquid phase exfoliation?

Can we extend to layered compounds?



Science, 331, 568 & Adv Mat 23, 3944

Also works for WS_2 , $TaSe_2$, $MoTe_2$, $MoSe_2$, NiTe₂, NbSe₂, TiS₂, TaS₂, MnO₂, RuO₂, TiO₂, Bi₂Te₃, Bi₂Se₃, Sb₂Te₃, Sb₂Se₃, MoO₃, GaS...

Prepare films...



From 10s of nm thick to freestanding



.....and composites

Many possibilities e.g. 2D:1D WS₂:SWNT



Applications: MoO₃ Supercapacitors



2 electrode cell $1M \text{ LiClO}_4$ in propylene carbonate



100-fold increase with 5% SWNT Up to 500 F/g at low rates



J Mater Chem C.

Production process scaled up for graphene and other 2Ds

- 1200



Thomas Swan

Performance Chemicals / Custom Manufacture / Advanced Materials

Advanced Materials – Graphene

Elicarb[®] Graphene Products

- Solvent exfoliation as a route to non-oxidised, conductive, Graphene Nanoplatelets.
- Developed in association with Prof. J. Coleman at CRANN,
 - Trinity College Dublin.
- Potential applications include:
 - Transparent conductive materials
 - Flexible and printed electronics
 - Super-capacitors and batteries
 - Thermal management materials
 - Mechanical reinforcement
- CRANN process is currently being transferred to Thomas Swan, Consett, UK.









CRANN-Thomas Swan Graphene

- Testing at Thomas Swan confirms that the solvent exfoliated graphene is substantially non-oxidised with good conductivity.
- Exfoliation pilot scale is now established at Thomas Swan and commissioning is in progress.
- Design of a full scale exfoliation plant is underway.
- Elicarb[®] Graphene will be available at gram scale for customer evaluations early in 2014.
- Thomas Swan welcomes customer enquiries for application development opportunities.

Thomas Swan....proven ability to scale carbon nanomaterials



Elicarb SW Low Residue 500kg production plant – recently commissioned.

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