Superhard nanomaterials – where toughness really counts

# Carbodeon NanoDiamond Materials: *"Hard as Hell, but Cooler"*

#### HVM Graphene + Conference, Oxford, UK

#### www.hvm-uk.com

15.5.2014

Gavin Farmer, Carbodeon

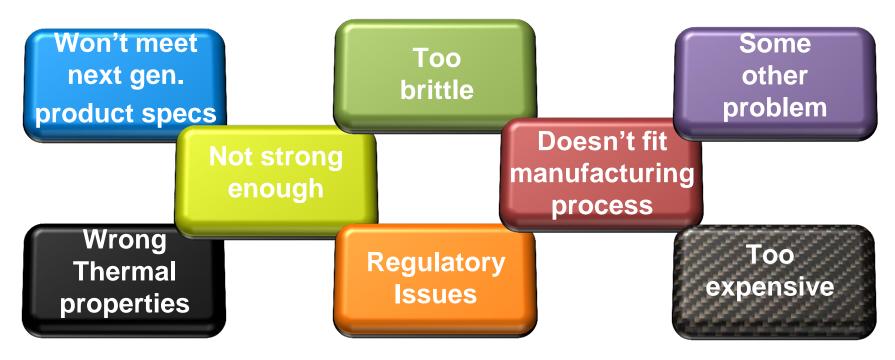
@carbodeon



Carbodeon Ltd. Oy.

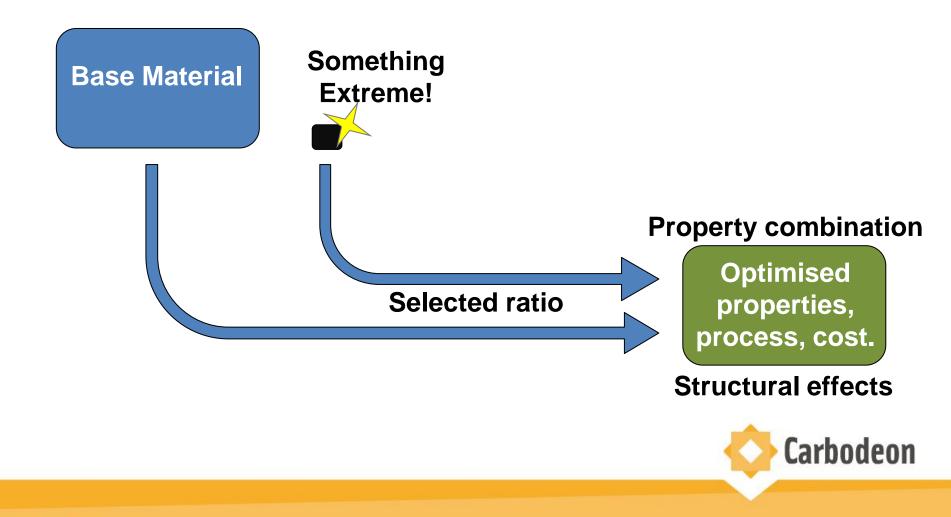


#### Material selection: Compromise.....

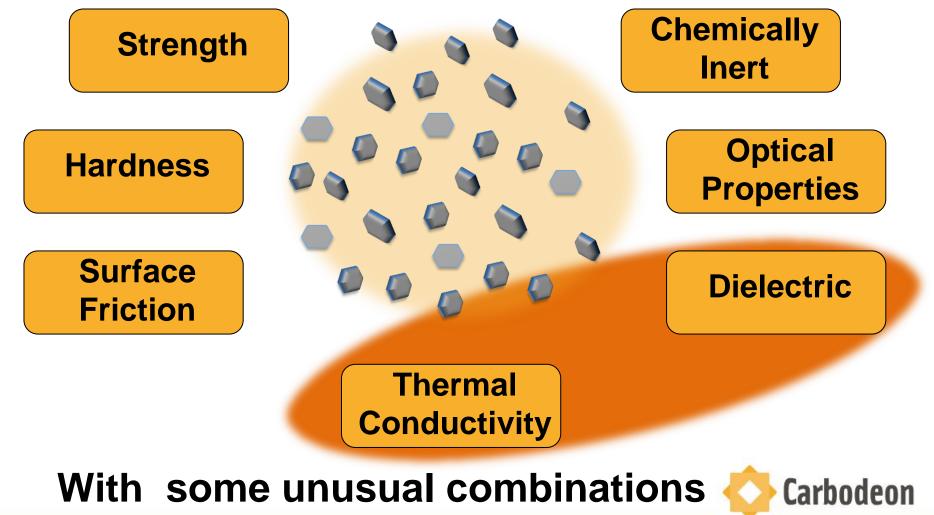




### Material design: Combine..... ..... and Optimise



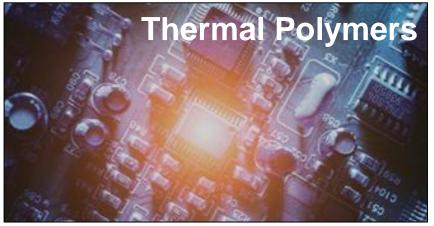
### Carbodeon NanoDiamond – Extreme Material.



#### Where, What, & How







#### Nicanite® Carbon Nitride





# **Plating and Anodising**

- Nanodiamond suspension or dispersion added to solutions
- Finer grain structure + embedded hard particles



1. Industrial machine parts with hard chrome: durability improved from 3.5 to 5.5 years

2. Gold plated electrical connectors: wear performance improved by 100%

3. Electroless nickel: Abrasion resistance tripled



# **Polymer Coatings**

- NanoDiamond powder, suspension, or dispersion
- Hard particles bonded to parent material.
- Polymer reinforced/ restructured at molecular scale

1. PTFE and FEP coatings – aqueous and solvent.

Wear improvement up to 50% Friction reduction up to 66% Surface finish improved 85%



2. Consumer product: unnamed coating formulations on unnamed products: Wear performance improved by >3X



### **Thermal Management**

- Nanodiamond powders added to existing polymers & composites
- Thermal conductivity without compromise to other properties



Electronics & LED – TIM & Heat sinks: Thermal, dielectric and structural properties

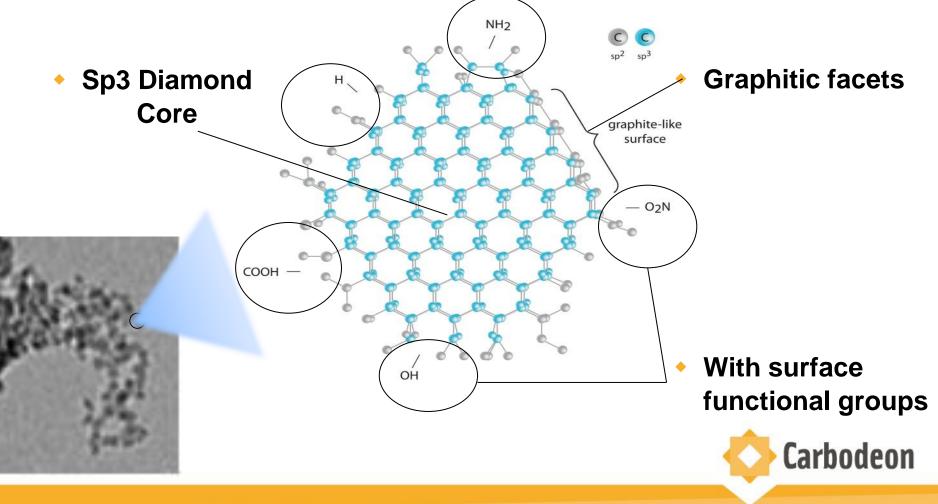
Thermoplastic Development: Thermal conductivity increased >25% with 0.1wt% NanoDiamond

Low Carbon Vehicles: Additional Structural, frictional, lightweighting &Tg improvements



#### Where, What, & How

- Detonation Produced Nanodiamond 4-6 nm diamond particles
- Proven industrial process: tonnes/ yr scale



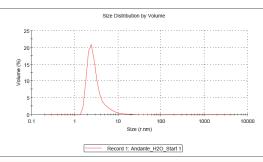
# uDiamond<sup>®</sup> Portfolio - Vivace Suspension and Andante Dispersion

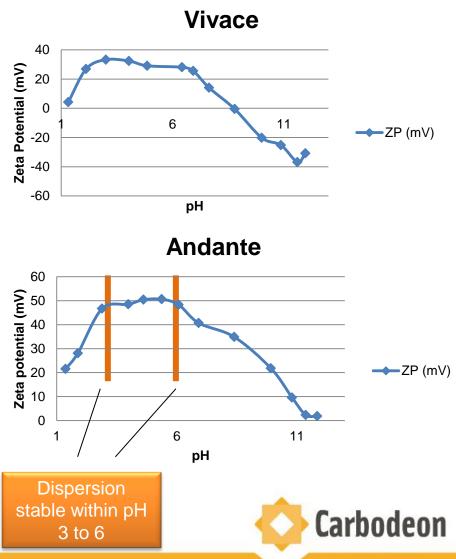
- uDiamond Vivace
  - A zeta-positive, 5 wt.% aqueous ND suspension
  - Agglomerated, zeta potential up to + 37 mV
  - Standard grade for plating within acidic region

#### uDiamond Andante

- A zeta-positive, 5 wt.% aqueous ND dispersion
- Dispersion stable within pH range of 3 to 6
- Zeta potential up to + 52 mV
- Solvents including Di-Ethylene Glycol

Singe Digit ND Dispersion D90 = 4.6 nm





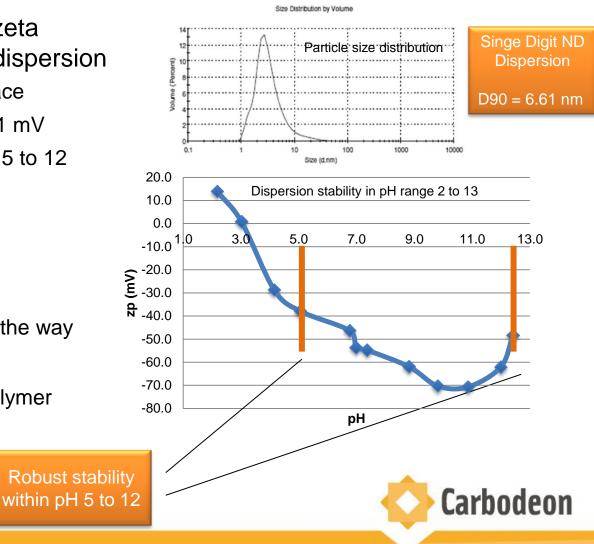
#### Vivace, Andante, Andante (Diluted)



# uDiamond<sup>®</sup> Portfolio - Vox D



- A new, patented highly zeta negative nanodiamond dispersion
  - Fully carboxylated surface
  - Zeta potentials up to -71 mV
  - Dispersion stable in pH 5 to 12
- Solvents
  - Aqueous, 5 wt.%
  - NMP, 2 wt %
  - NEP, 1 wt%
  - GBL, other solvents on the way
- Applications
  - Paints, resins, fluoropolymer



### uDiamond<sup>®</sup> Portfolio

- Options for surface chemistry and morphology
- Powders agglomerated clusters of NanoDiamonds in >100nm scale. Used where no compatible solvent available, e.g. certain thermal polymers.
- Suspensions smaller agglomerates in liquid, easier to incorporate.
- Dispersions single digit 4-6 nm particles in stable dispersion

Very easy dispersion – direct mixing Increased surface area

Low concentrations 0.05-1.0wt%, <1g/litre (in cases)

Paints, resins with no visual effects Choice of Solvents Also for electroplating @ pH>3



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#### Where, What, & How

NanoDiamond Material Selection

Material and Process Understanding

Dispersion Methods & Process Optimisation

Property Requirements, Test Methods, Economics

Communication



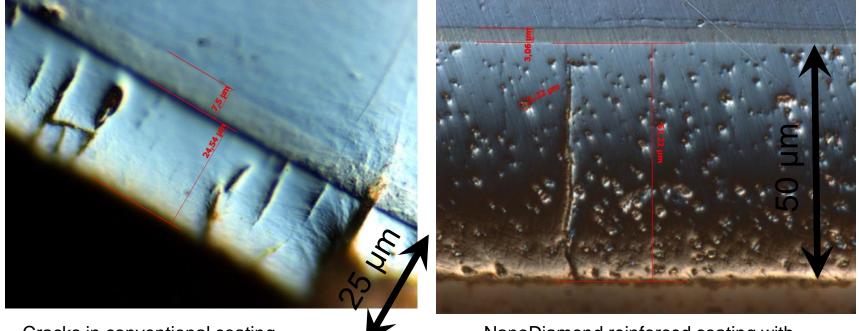
#### Where, What, & How

Unfortunately, it isn't as simple as this!



# **Example Application - Electroplating**

- NanoDiamonds result in a denser, less cracked/ porpous stucture leading to improved corrosion resistance.
- Agglomerated NanoDiamond 100nm plus scale



Cracks in conventional coating.

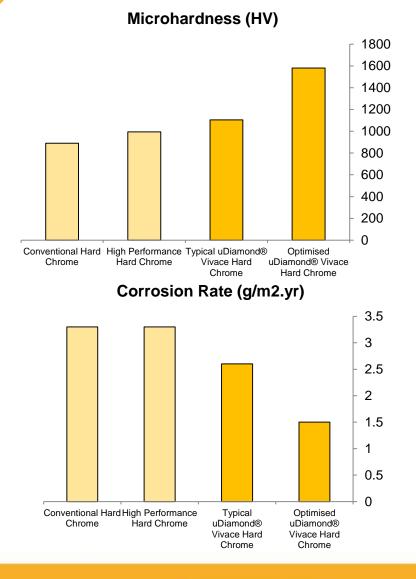
NanoDiamond reinforced coating with reduced cracking.



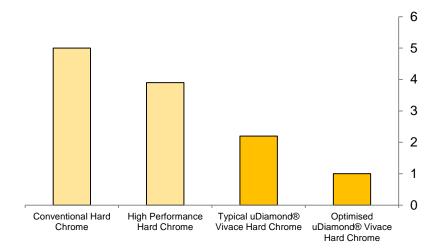
# uDiamond<sup>®</sup> Vivace With Cr<sup>VI</sup>



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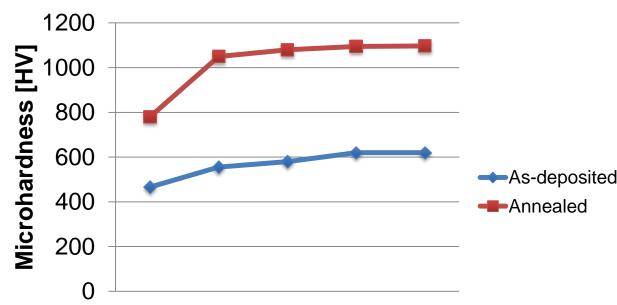
Wear Rate (weight loss%)



- Key improvements:
  - Microhardness: 20-50%
  - Wear resistance: >100%
  - Corrosion resistance: 50-100%
  - Friction coefficient: -30%
- Hurdle:
  - 10g/litre agglomerated NanoDiamond

### uDiamond<sup>®</sup> Andante in Electroless Nickel

- Medium phosphorous electroless nickel
- No agglomeration single digit dispersion
- Annealing at 350 °C
- Nanodiamond surface functionalization has a big impact in electroless processes



#### 0 0.005 0.01 0.015 0.02 ND concentration [g/l]

Microhardness of electroless nickel with and without ND's. Annealing at 350 °C.



### **Introducing Carbodeon's Plating Lab**

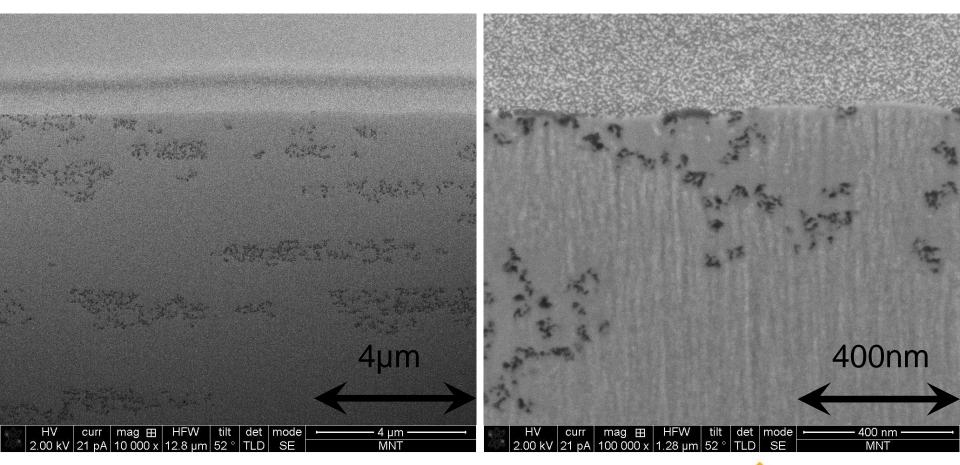
- Electroless & Electrolytic Nickel
- Trivalent Chromium



Material analysis – wear testing



#### SEM-images of 0,05 g/l ND containing E/N samples

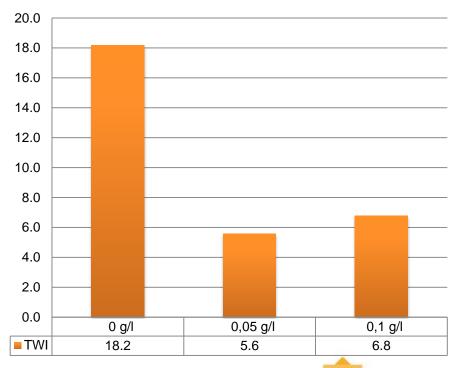




# Electroless Nickel – Preliminary in-house test results

- Medium phosphorous (P = 5-9%)
- No heat treatment
- Wear resistance measured using Taber 5135, CS-10 rolls ,1 kg load
- TWI = average weight loss
  [mg] / 1000 revolutions
- Small change in hardness, large change in wear resistance
- Diamond composition in the plating is approx 0.2-0.4wt%
- Diamond cost is lower than the Nickel cost

#### Average Taber Wear Indexes of Electroless Nickel with various ND-concentrations



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## Example Coating Application NanoDiamond-Fluoropolymer Coatings

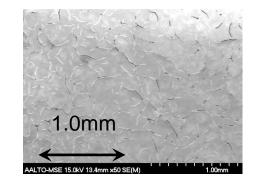
Over 500 samples made and tested to date.

#### **Suspension grade:**

Improvements made, based on around 2wt% addition.

#### Reference

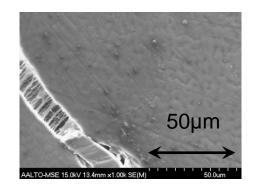
With ND's



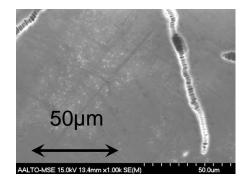
#### **Dispersion grade:**

Matching improvements made using 0.05-0.25wt%

Friction, Wear and Surface Finish Improvements



1.0mm



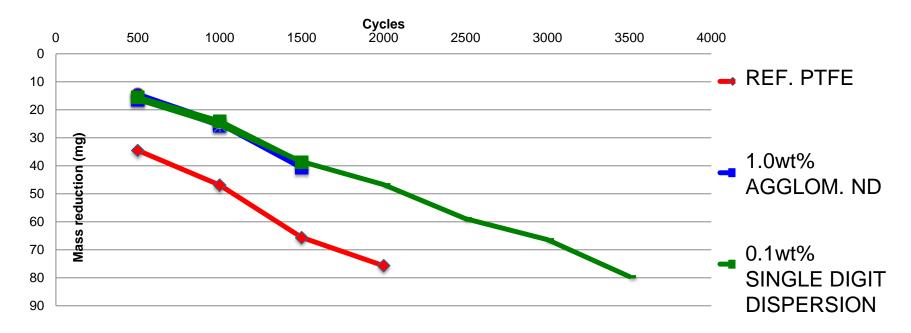






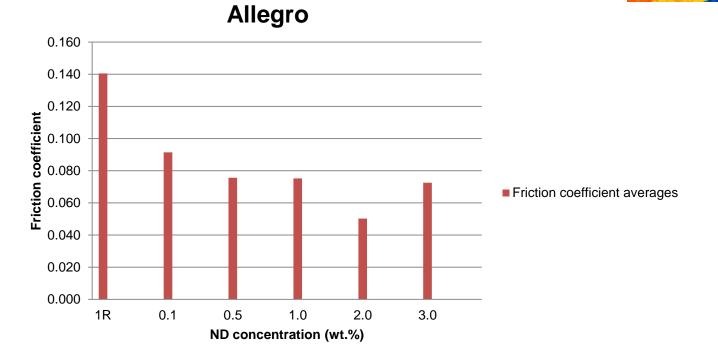
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#### **Taber analyses**



- ND concentrations, in final coatings
  - Agglomerating grade, 1 wt.%
  - Single Digit grade, 0.1 wt.%
- Wear properties studied up to 2000-3500 cycles
- Up to 50% improvement in wear properties, up to 66% friction reduction

#### **Friction Properties – PTFE (Aq) Example**



- Friction tests with Allegro ND not the latest single digit dispersion
- ND concentrations varied between 0.1 to 3.0 wt.%
- Significant improvements already with very low ND additions
- 66% reduction received with 2 wt.% ND concentration



#### Friction - Wear Collection Plating, coatings, nanocomposites

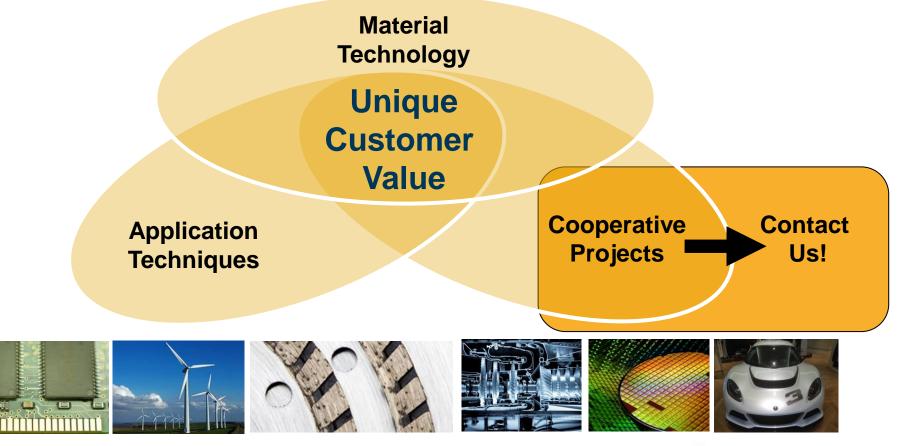
- Powertrain components (friction, wear)
- Chassis components (friction, corrosion, elastomer properties)
- Interior & Exterior (wear resistant resins & coatings, high performance composites)



• Automotive, Aerospace & Defence, Industrial, Electronics etc.



### Carbodeon – Providing You a Unique Advantage through New Materials



gavin.farmer@carbodeon.com / +44 7768 587105

