Are CNFs a Viable Option to Replace CNTs in High-Performance Nanocomposites? A Realistic Assessment

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Despite the significant potential of carbon nanotube (CNT) based nanocomposites, the realistic assessment shows that they fall far short of expectations in terms of their mechanical properties due to the difficulties involved in the processing. Furthermore, the high cost and toxicity issues have hampered the development of such 'super composites' for practical applications. The present article discusses the possibilities of using another cheaper alternative, carbon nanofibers (CNFs), for the cost effective manufacture of nanocomposites.

Keywords: Carbon nanofiber, carbon nanotube, nanocomposites

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