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**Material Properties** 

## Electrical and thermal conductivity of ethylene vinyl acetate composite with graphene and carbon black filler

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## Abstract

Ethylene vinyl acetate (EVA) composites, including two different carbonaceous conductive fillers, carbon black (CB) and commercially available graphene (G), were fabricated by solvent-casting and melt compounding methods. The effect of additives and process conditions on electrical and thermal properties of composites was investigated. The dielectric responses of EVA composites were characterized by a percolation threshold of 15 wt % for EVA/G prepared by solvent-casting. However, as the EVA/G15% was also subsequently extruded, the applied shear stress induced by extrusion caused deterioration of the electrical network and reduced the composite's electrical conductivity. A percolating network was found for the EVA composites containing CB at around 5-7 wt % with 10 orders of magnitude increase in electrical conductivity with respect to the neat EVA. The thermal conductivity of EVA/CB7% and EVA/G15% increased 16 and 22 % respectively, in comparison to the neat EVA. Both additives increased the electrical and thermal conductivity of composites to be appropriate as jackets for high-voltage cables.

*Keywords:* Electrical properties; Thermal conductivity; Ethylene vinyl acetate; Carbon black; Graphene.

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