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1 Isotactic Polypropylene Reinforced Atactic Polypropylene by

2 Formation of Shish-kebab Superstructure

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Abstract. To make large scale, effective use of atactic polypropylene (aPP), 12 13 normally regarded as industry waste, isotactic polypropylene (iPP) was blended with aPP with a guiding ideology of "structuring processing". Herein, the aPP/iPP blends 14 were melt processed through modified injection molding, i.e., oscillation shear 15 injection molding (OSIM), in which an oscillation shear flow field was applied to 16 17 induce self-reinforcing oriented iPP crystals. With addition of only 30 wt% iPP, the tensile strength of the blend could increase from 1.6 MPa for neat aPP to 26.6 MPa, 18 which is comparable to that of conventionally injection molded high density 19 20 polyethylene. Further increasing iPP content to 50 wt%, the tensile strength of OSIM aPP/iPP sample rose up to 41.6 MPa, already higher than those of industrial-scale 21 extruded and injection-molded iPP. The results of wide-angle X-ray diffraction 22 (WAXD), small-angle X-ray scattering (SAXS), differential scanning calorimetry 23 (DSC) and scanning electron microscopy (SEM) testified that the increased 24 enhancement of mechanical performance of OSIM blend with the increase of iPP 25 content can be ascribed to the progressive formation of iPP shish-kebab networks. It is 26

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