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#### Hindered phenol functionalized graphene oxide for natural rubber

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**ABSTRACT:** Hindered phenol functionalized graphene oxide (HPFGO) was prepared by grafting

2, 6-Di-tert-butyl-4-hydroxymethyl phenol (DBHMP) onto graphene oxide (GO) using isophorone

diisocyanate as bridging agent. FT-IR, XPS, XRD and TGA results confirmed the chemical structure

of HPFGO. By latex-mixing method, HPFGO was uniformly dispersed in natural rubber (NR)

matrix and obviously enhanced the thermal stability. Importantly, HPFGO significantly improved

the thermo-oxidative aging resistance of NR vulcanizate, which was attributed to not only the

synergistic antioxidative effect between hindered phenol and urethane groups, but also the barrier

role of HPFGO sheets to oxygen.

**KEYWORDS:** Hindered phenol; Graphene oxide; Nanocomposites, Thermal properties,

Thermo-oxidative aging resistance

#### 1. Introduction

Due to the presence of unsaturated double bonds and active allylic hydrogens, natural rubber (NR) easily undergoes thermal oxidation attack when being stored and used. Generally, the most convenient way is to add antioxidant. However, traditional antioxidants including aromatic amines

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