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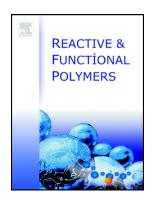
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Compatibility confirmation and refinement of thermal and mechanical properties of

Poly (lactic acid)/Poly (ethylene-co-glycidyl methacrylate) blend reinforced by

hexagonal boron nitride.

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ABSTRACT

The formation of PLA/PEGM graft copolymers during the melt blending of poly (lactic acid) (PLA)

and poly (ethylene-co-glycidyl methacrylate) (PEGM) act as an interface between two polymer

matrices was illustrated by the epoxide ring-opening mechanism. There are two coupling reaction

mechanisms of glycidyl methacrylate (GM) unit of PEGM with the terminal groups of PLA. The

analysis of FTIR and ¹H NMR spectra elucidates the chemical reaction of GM unit of PEGM with

carboxylic and hydroxyl terminal groups of PLA. FTIR analysis also confirms that the carboxylic

terminal groups of PLA are more likely to react with GM group of PEGM. Hence, PLA grade having

carboxyl terminal groups is more compatible with PEGM as compared to the PLA grade having

hydroxyl and ester terminal groups. The hexagonal boron nitride(HBN) is incorporated with various

labels such that 1 phr, 5 phr and 10 phr to prepare PLA/PEGM/HBN blend-composites. The blend-

composite with low HBN content i.e. 1 phr shows better mechanical and thermal properties than neat

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