Accepted Manuscript

Title: Enhanced mechanical properties and viscoelastic characterizations of nanonecklace-reinforced carbon nanotube/copper composite films

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PII: S0169-4332(14)02520-3

DOI: http://dx.doi.org/doi:10.1016/j.apsusc.2014.11.055

Reference: APSUSC 29100

To appear in: APSUSC

Received date: 31-7-2014 Revised date: 1-10-2014 Accepted date: 10-11-2014

Please cite this article as: P.-C. Tsai, Y.-R. Jeng, Enhanced mechanical properties and viscoelastic characterizations of nanonecklace-reinforced carbon nanotube/copper composite films, *Applied Surface Science* (2014), http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.apsusc.2014.11.055

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Enhanced mechanical properties and viscoelastic characterizations of

nanonecklace-reinforced carbon nanotube/copper composite films

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ABSTRACT

Necklace-shaped (NS) reinforced carbon nanotube/copper (CNT/Cu) composites are

fabricated using the molecular-level decoration and consolidation techniques. The results

show that the CNT/Cu composite with NS structures enhances the mechanical interlocking

between the CNT arrays and the surrounding Cu matrix and yields a higher critical load,

hardness and elastic modulus than conventional CNT-reinforced composites with a

straight-shaped (SS) morphology. The mechanical properties

characterizations of the NS-reinforced CNT/Cu composites are examined via

nanoindentation and dynamic mechanical analysis testing. It is shown that the embedded

CNTs play a key role in raising the damping properties of the CNT/Cu composites by acting

as a "load transfer" mechanism in releasing the excess stress within the Cu matrix.

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