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Carbon Nanotube Polymer Composites as High Performance Thermal Interface Materials for Burn in and Test Applications

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2016 BiTS Workshop March 6 - 9, 2016



Carbon Nanotube Polymer Composites as High Performance Thermal Interface Materials for Burn in and Test Applications

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Technology overview: vertically aligned carbon nanotubes

X = 0.1010um Y = 29.364um D = 29.364um

Technology - Highlights

- High thermal conductivity
- Billions of aligned nanoscale thermal paths
- Demonstrated >30% improvement over alternative solutions

Aluminum foil (layer)

Carbon nanotubes (CNT)

Carbon nanotubes (CNT)



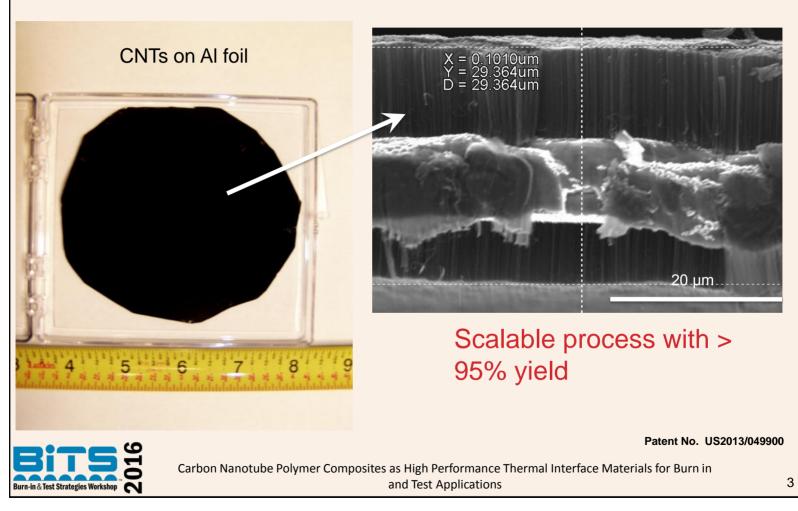
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Carbice CNT growth technique ready to scale

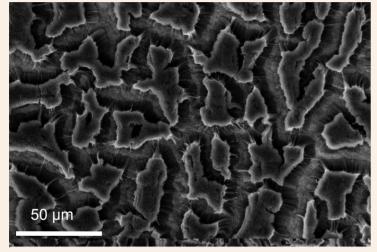


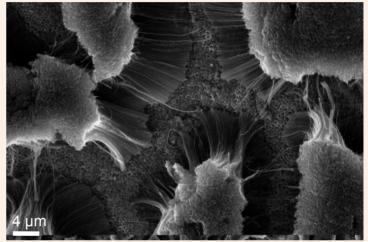
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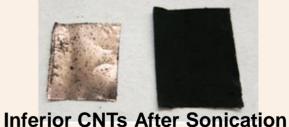
Robust CNT anchoring process

After 5 min sonication in ethanol – Carbice CNTs remain intact





Sonication removes inferior CNT



Patent No. US2013/049900

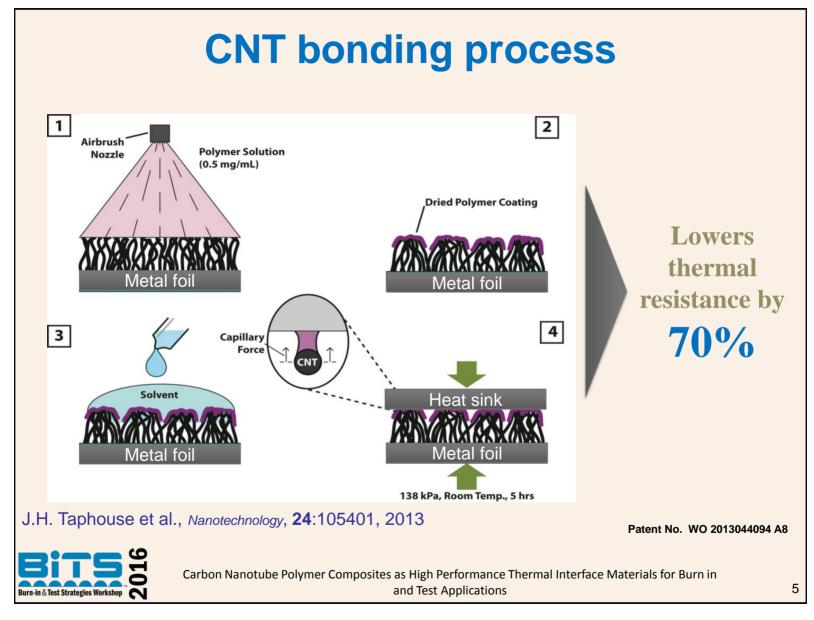


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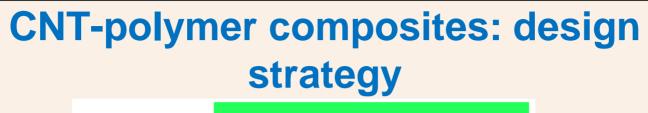
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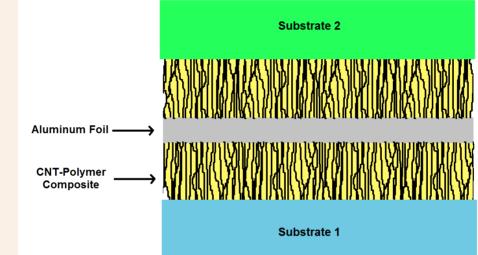


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Polymer selection and application tailors mechanical and thermal properties to specific applications

- Mechanical resilience and compliance
- Reduces thermal resistance
- Safe handling and CNT encapsulation

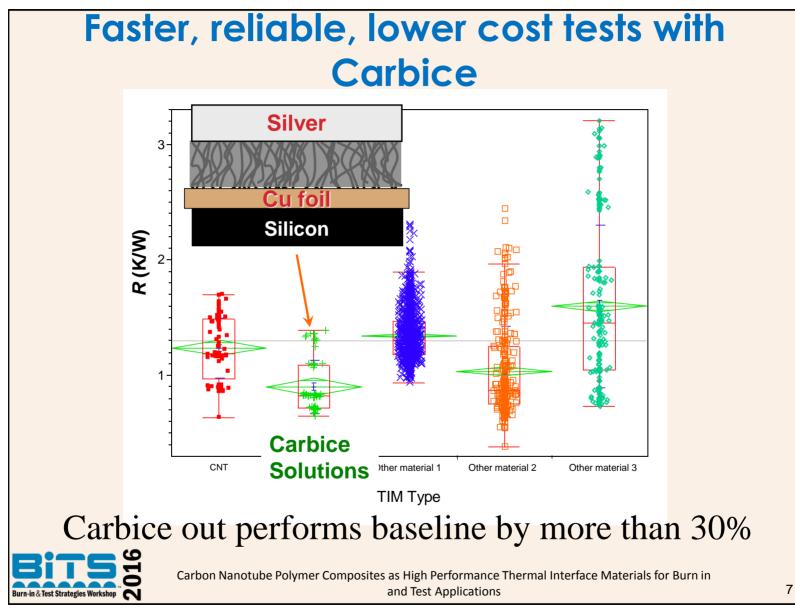
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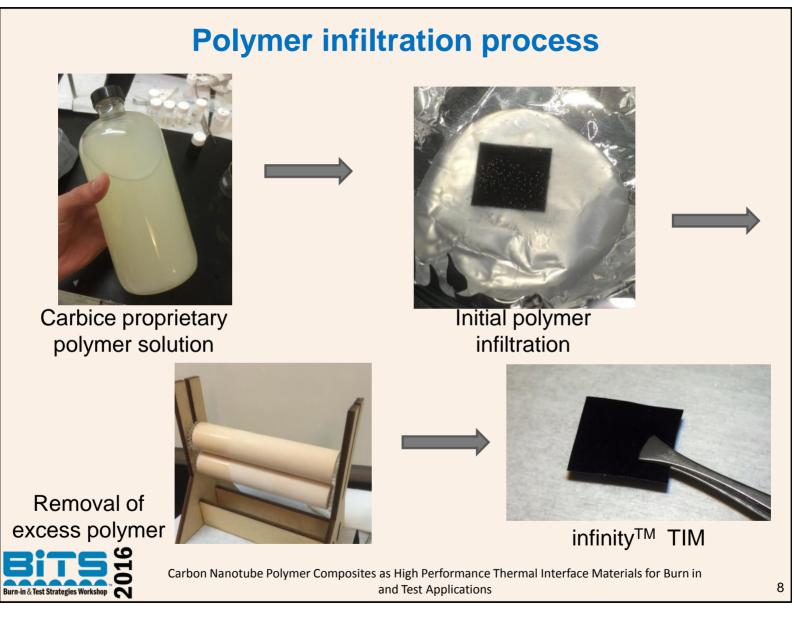
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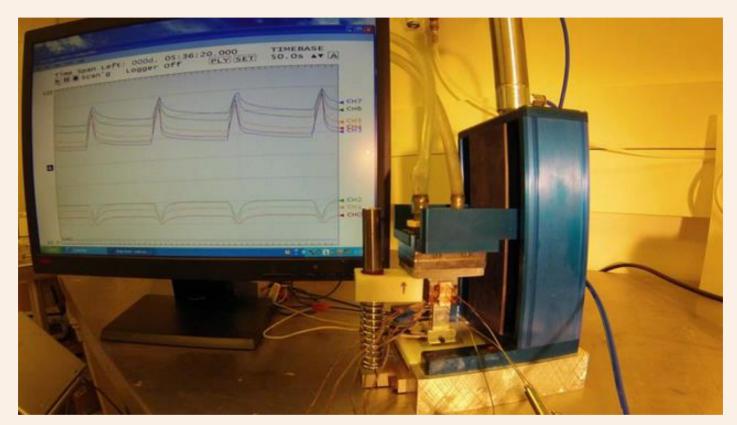
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Carbice infinityTM TIM ... product testing



Bench top burn in system demonstration



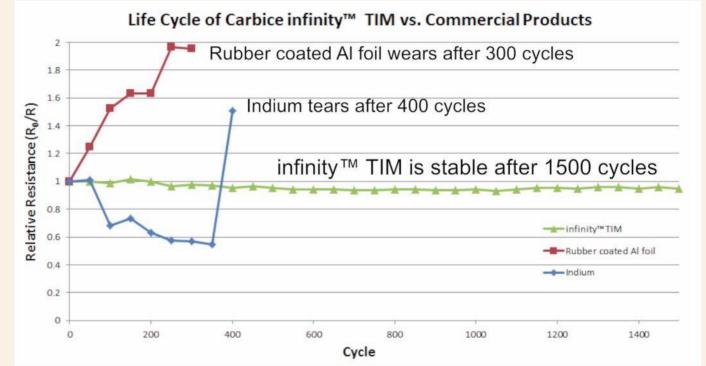
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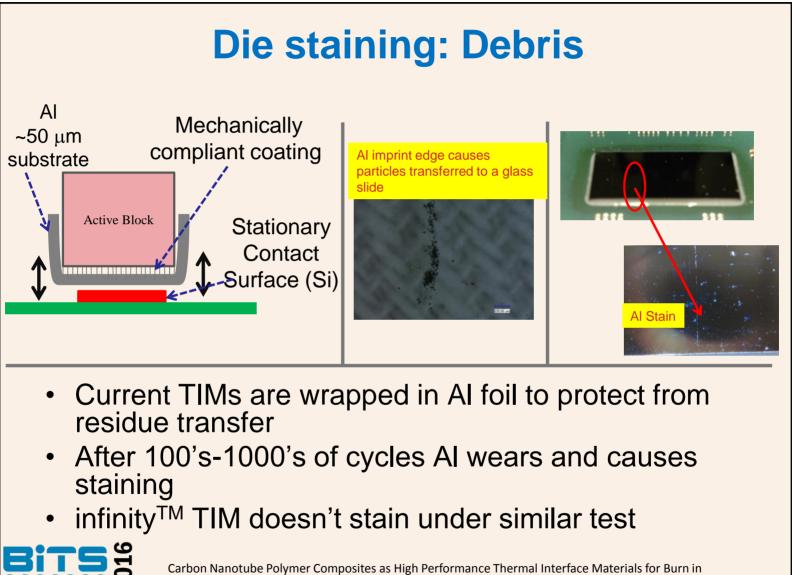


- Common Burn In TIMs wear after a few hundred cycles
- infinity[™] TIM is still robust after 1500 cycles



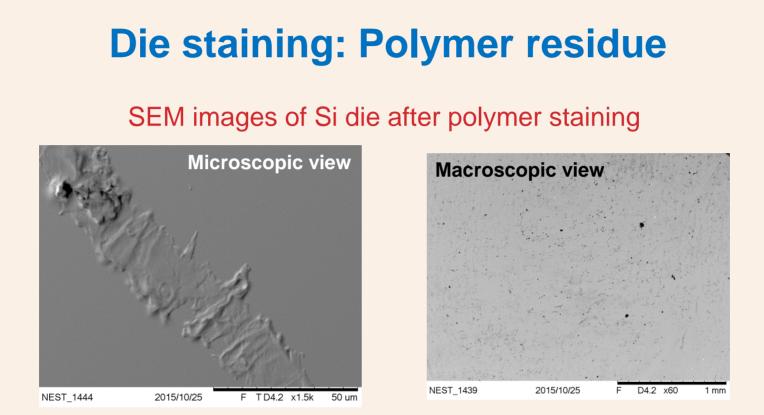
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- In addition to debris transfer, polymers can leach or decompose at high temperatures, leading to staining
- 12 hr. pressurized bake at 120 °C conducted to induce polymer driven die staining



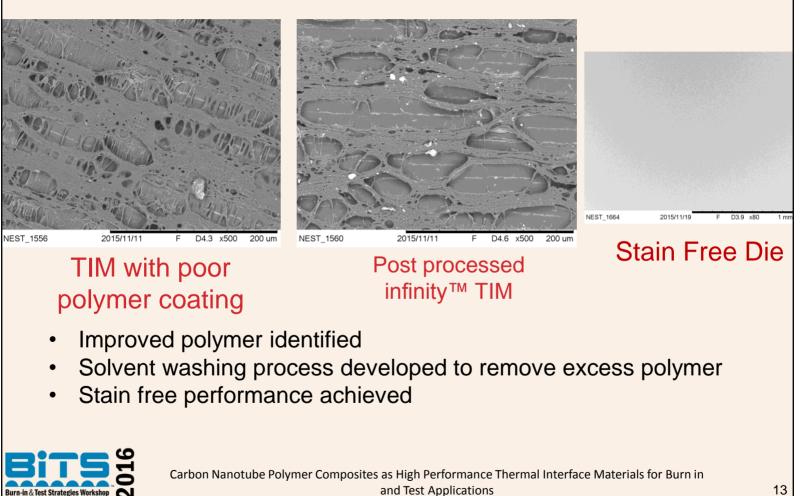
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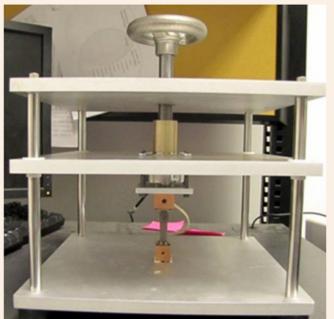
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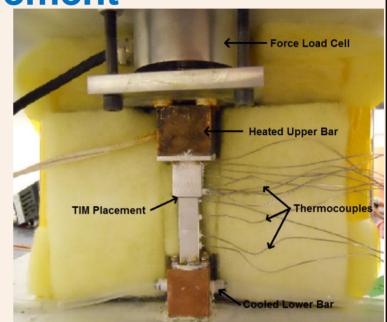
Stain free polymer coating



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Steady-state thermal resistance measurement





- Modified ASTM-5470 stepped bar apparatus
- Low cost but precise means of measuring thermal resistance

D.R. Thompson et al. A Stepped-Bar Apparatus for Thermal Resistance Measurements. ASME JEP, 2013.

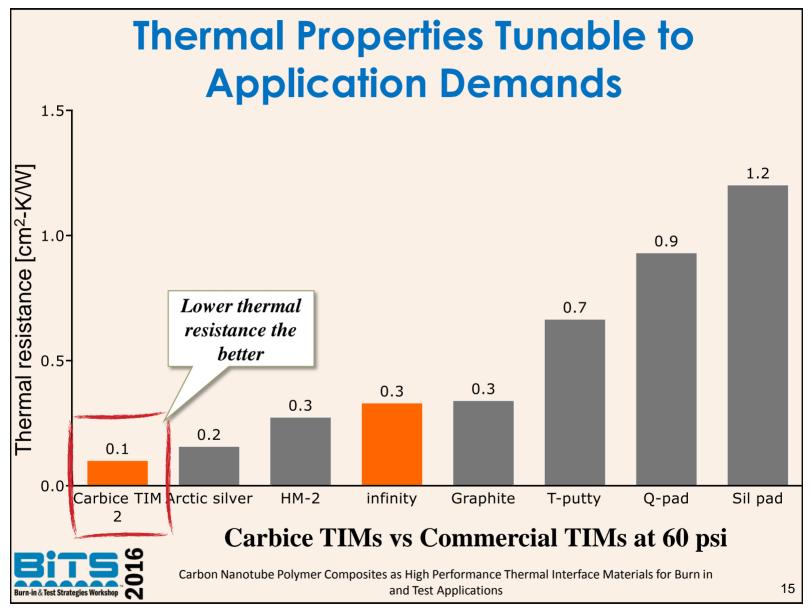


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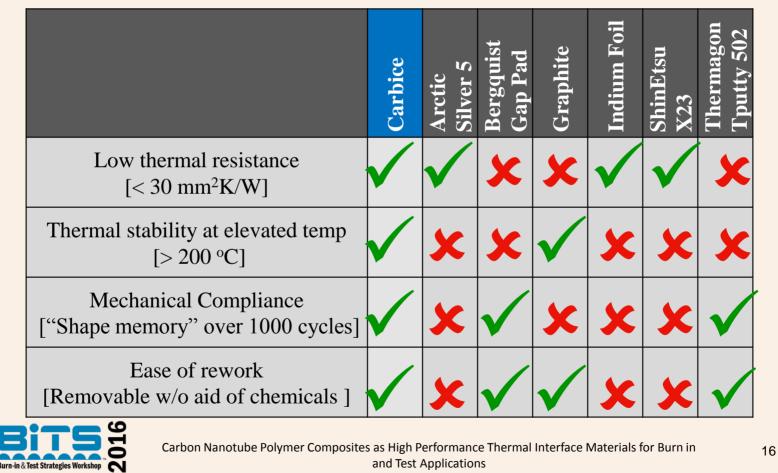


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Summary of Carbice enabled functionality

Thermal Interface Material Product Comparison Chart



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