SESSION 1: IMPROVING QUALITY of LIFE

PANEL 1.2: Nuclear technologies in industry, material sciences and beyond



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Radiation Technology: From High Performance Materials, To Preserving Cultural Heritage



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Radiation Technologies are present in daily life

People around the world are benefiting from the use of radiation technologies



Radiation Processing

- Practical application of radiation chemistry;
- Use of the energy of ionizing radiation - high energy - (gamma, electrons and X-ray) by introducing biological, physical and chemical effects in the irradiated product.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ePiNdzWjoWM



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Challenges and advantages of Radiation Processing

Radiation Crosslinking for production of polymer products





Rubber vulcanization Foamed polymers

Wire and cable insulations Heat shrincable products:







Radiation crosslinked wire heat resistant, abrasion resistant, high mechanical properties





- Production of new materials with special characteristics;
- Less chemicals (e.g. organic solvents) are needed;
- Less energy consumption;
- Less environment pollution ;
- Economically favourable technologies;

Standardized control methods;

process



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Food Irradiation

to decrease food losses during storage (20-30 % of food production is lost due to pests, insects, bacteria, fungi);

 to decrease microbial contamintion (pathogens, parasites result in food-borne deseases);

- to avoid infection it looks to be the best solution;





Human Tissues and prothesis Sterilization



- -Based on microbiological effect:
- Single use medical devices (60 % of production)
- food packaging materials;
- food for astronauts and for hospitals;







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Surface Coating

toms For Peac

- Simultaneous radiation polymerization and crosslinking of monomer and oligomer molecules on the surface of e.g. wood, metal, paper, ceramics, film resulting in a homogeneous layer in room temperature without using solvents
- Industries: printing, furniture, building, etc.
- New: low energy curing of pigmented coatings on metal coil (energy saving).





Potential Fuel Cell Application





Radiation Grafting

Monomer or oligomer function group is connected to a polymer molecule by ionizing radiation resulting in new product of new characteristics.

Application fields:

- packaging materials (PE coated Al foil)
- textile products (better colourization)
- health care products (increased biocompatibility)
- battery separators
- FUEL CELL MEMBRANES GRAFTED USING IONIZING RADIATION





Release Technologies

- Biomedical products production of hydrogels: (hydrophylic polymers: PVP, PVA) -Wound dress and prevention of bedsore.
- Radiation treatment of postal packages (anthrax).
- Composite materials e.g. SiC (°C) for space research; carbon fibers for e.g. car industry;
- Nanogels for controlled release drug-delivery systems;
- Surface decontamination of packaging (asseptic) materials
- Radiation degradation: natural (cellulose, polysaccharides) and artificial (teflon) polymers to smaller molecular weight parts of smaller viscosity: - viscose industry (less chemicals and energy requirement); paper industry; ink production (from teflon waste); cellulose containing waste to produce, animal food; agriculture (chitin e.g.)













Environmental Protection Technologies

Waste water and drinking water treatment:

Remove impurities of biological (pathogens) and/or of industrial origin (organic compounds);

Advantages:

- on-line technology;
- no chemical contamination;
- combined treatment is possible

(chlorination, ozone, filtration);

Industries:

- Paper production and textile industry;
- Communale waste water;







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Environmental Protection Technologies

Sludge treatment:

Utilization of irradiated sludge (5 – 10 kGy) as fertilizer in agriculture, if its heavy metal content is negligible. On-line procedure.

Flue gas treatment:

Coal and oil based power stations emit sulphur and nitrogen containing gases, resulting in "acidic rain". Responsible also for the formation of smog and green house effect.

 SO_2 (~ 95 %) and NO_x (~ 80 %) removal.

NH₃ addition to produce fertilizers.

Use of low energy accelerators.









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Cultural Heritage artefacts and archived materials disinfection and consolidation







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Noticias

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