

DEVELOPMENT OF NR/CIIR RUBBER BLENDS WITH CARBON BLACK AND SILICA FILLERS FOR TYRE INNER LINERS

LIBRARY
UNIVERSITY OF MORATUWA, SRI LANKA
MORATUWA

T.A.A.I.Siriwardana

(8208)



University of Moratuwa, Sri Lanka.
Electronic Theses & Dissertations
www.lib.mrt.ac.lk

This thesis submitted in partial fulfillment of the requirements for the degree Master of Science

id Polymers Tech.

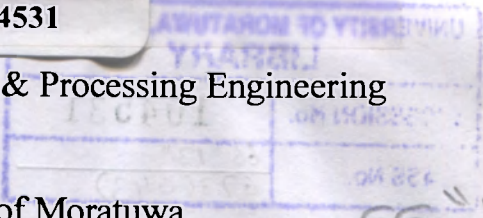
University of Moratuwa

104531

Department of Chemical & Processing Engineering

University of Moratuwa
Sri Lanka

December 2012



66"12"
678 (043)
TH
104531

DECLARATION BY THE CANDIDATE

The work described in this thesis was carried out by me under the supervision of Dr. (Mrs.) Dilhara G. Edirisinghe (Actg. Head Rubber Technology & Development Department, Rubber Research Institute of Sri Lanka, Ratmalana) and Dr. (Mrs.) Shantha Egodage (Senior Lecturer, Department of Chemical & Process Engineering, University of Moratuwa) and report on this has not been submitted in whole or part to any University or any other Institution for another Degree/Diploma. I also certify that this thesis does not include, without acknowledgement, any materials previously submitted for a degree in any universities, and to the best of my knowledge and belief it does not contain any materials previously published, written or oral communicated by another person.



University of Moratuwa, Sri Lanka.
Electronic Theses & Dissertations
www.lib.mrt.ac.lk

UOM Verified Signature

.....

T.A.A.I.Siriwardana

.....

Date

DECLARATION OF THR SUPERVISORS

We certify that the above statement made by the candidate is true and that this thesis is suitable for submission to the university for the purpose of evaluation.

UOM Verified Signature

.....
Dr (Mrs.) Dilhara G.Edirisinghe
Actg. Head,
Rubber Technology &
Development Department,
Rubber Research Institute of Sri Lanka,
Ratmalana



University of Moratuwa, Sri Lanka.
Electronic Theses & Dissertations
www.lib.mrt.ac.lk

Date: ..02.01.2013....

UOM Verified Signature

.....
Dr. (Mrs.) Shantha Egodage
Senior Lecturer,
Department Chemical &
Process Engineering,
University of Moratuwa

Date: 02.01.2013.....

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

First, and foremost, I would very much like to express my sincere gratitude to Dr. (Mrs.) Dilhara Edirisinghe, Actg. Head, Rubber Technology & Development Department of the Rubber Research Institute of Sri Lanka, who was my project supervisor, for the encouragement, guidance and numerous helpful comments and suggestions given to me right throughout the project.

I wish to express my sincere thanks to Dr. (Mrs.) Shantha Egodage, Senior Lecturer, Department of Chemical and Process Engineering, Dr. Jagath Premachandra, Senior Lecturer, Department of Chemical and Process Engineering and Dr. Shantha Walpalage, Senior Lecturer, Department of Chemical and Process Engineering of the University of Moratuwa, Sri Lanka, for the keen interest taken in co-ordinating the MSc. Course in Polymer Science & Technology and making arrangements for me to undertake this project.



University of Moratuwa, Sri Lanka.
Electronic Theses & Dissertations

I wish to express my gratitude to Dr. W.M.G. Seneviratne, Director, and other officers of the Rubber Research Institute of Sri Lanka, for providing me the necessary facilities to carry out this work at the Institute's Laboratories situated at Ratmalana. The technical assistance given by the staff of Rubber Technology & Development Department, Polymer Chemistry Department, Raw Rubber and Chemical Analysis Department, and Raw Rubber Processing & Chemical Engineering Department of the Rubber Research Institute of Sri Lanka also gratefully acknowledged.

Also, I wish to express my thanks to my colleagues for their invaluable services, advice, generous support at all times, too numerous to mention here and above all, for the inspiration and encouragement to make this onerous task a success.

My special thanks are also to Sri Lanka Institute Nano Technology (SLINTEC), D. Samson Industries (Pvt.) Ltd, Associated Motorways (Pvt.) Ltd, and Elastomeric Engineering (Pvt.) Ltd, for their unfailing help and kind cooperation given throughout the project.

A very special word of thanks to my parents and family members for their generous help towards my academic achievements, at all times.



University of Moratuwa, Sri Lanka.
Electronic Theses & Dissertations
www.lib.mrt.ac.lk

ABSTRACT

Inner liner of a tubeless tyre is currently constructed using a speciality synthetic rubber called chlorobutyl rubber (CIIR). Blending of CIIR with natural rubber (NR) will enable to achieve improvement in physico-mechanical properties with a reduced compound cost. Also, use of CIIR/NR blends for inner liners are best at retaining air pressure and minimizing the temperature dependence of air permeability. The property increase is enhanced by addition of a mix of carbon black and silica fillers, which are reinforcing fillers. One reason for carrying out this research is to enhance the market opportunities of NR by developing NR/CIIR blends to reach the end product requirements. In this study, different series of compounds were prepared, one with CIIR alone by varying the carbon black to silica ratio at 10 phr intervals, other with CIIR/NR blends by varying the CIIR to NR blend ratio at 20% intervals. Total filler loading was kept constant at 60 phr.

Melt viscosity, hardness, tensile strength, modulus at 300 % and tear strength increased with silica loading, while scorch time, abrasion volume loss and air permeability decreased above silica loading of 30 phr.. Cure time did not show any variation with type of filler. When replacing CIIR with NR, cure rate index increased significantly from 40% NR and hence the cure time decreased. Mechanical properties and air permeability varied significantly. Materials used for the inner liner mainly chlorobutyl rubber are very expensive and hence by using the above mentioned blend with the optimum filler loading the production cost can be minimized. Results in overall showed optimum properties for the 20:80 CIIR/NR blend at 10:50 carbon black /silica filler ratio.



Electronic Theses & Dissertations
www.lib.mrt.ac.lk

Key words: Chlorobutyl rubber, Natural rubber, Rubber blends, Physico-mechanical properties, Air permeability, Combined effect of carbon black and silica fillers

TABLE OF CONTENTS

	Page
Declaration of the Candidate	i
Declaration of the Supervisor	ii
Acknowledgements	iii
Abstract	v
Table of Contents	vi
List of Figures	xiii
List of Tables	xviii
List of Abbreviations	xix
List of Appendices	xxi
CHAPTER ONE – INTRODUCTION	1
1.1 Background	1
1.2 Objectives	4
CHAPTER TWO – LITERATURE REVIEW	5
2.1 Natural Rubber	5
2.1.1 Structure and properties of natural rubber	5
2.1.2 Applications of natural rubber	6
2.2 Butyl Rubber	6
2.2.1 Structure, properties and applications of butyl rubber	6
2.2.2 Processing and compounding of butyl rubber	8



University of Moratuwa, Sri Lanka.
Electronic Theses & Dissertations
www.lib.mrt.ac.lk

2.3 Reinforcement with Carbon Black and Silica Fillers	9
2.3.1 The nature of carbon black	9
2.3.2 The phenomena of reinforcement	10
2.3.3 The nature of silica	10
2.3.4 Applications of silica	11
2.4 Rubber Mixing	12
2.4.1 Process variables and control	13
2.5 Compounding and Vulcanization	15
2.5.1 Compounding	15
2.5.2 Compounding ingredients	16
2.5.3 Vulcanization	19
2.5.4 Sulphur curing system	19
2.5.5 The chemistry of accelerated sulphur vulcanization	20
2.5.6 Influence of fillers on vulcanization	22
2.5.7 Cure system and cure characteristics of chlorobutyl rubber	23
2.6 Swelling of Rubber Networks	24
2.6.1 Swelling of Filled Rubber	25
2.7 Air Permeability	26
2.7.1 Air permeability of inner liners of tubeless tyre	27
CHAPTER THREE – EXPERIMENTAL	30

3.1 Materials	30
3.2 Experimental Procedures	30
3.2.1 Determination of Mooney viscosity of raw rubber	30
3.2.2 Preparation of chlorobutyl rubber compounds with different - combinations of fillers	32
3.2.3 Preparation of chlorobutyl rubber/natural rubber blend compounds - with different blend ratios	33
3.2.4 Determination of cure characteristics of rubber compounds	37
3.2.5 Determination of tensile strength of rubber vulcanizates	38
3.2.6 Determination of tear strength of rubber vulcanizates	40
3.2.7 Determination of ageing resistance of rubber vulcanizates	41
3.2.8 Determination of hardness of rubber vulcanizates	42
3.2.9 Determination of rebound resilience of rubber vulcanizates	42
3.2.10 Determination of gas permeability of rubber vulcanizates	43
3.2.11 Determination of compression set of rubber vulcanizates	45
3.2.12 Determination of abrasion resistance of rubber vulcanizates	46
3.2.13 Determination of density of rubber vulcanizates	46
3.2.14 Determination of water swelling of rubber vulcanizates	47
3.2.15 Determination of rolling resistance of rubber vulcanizates	47
3.2.16 Determination of flex cracking resistance of rubber vulcanizates	47
CHAPTER FOUR – RESULTS AND DISCUSSION	49
4.1 Cure Characteristics of CIIR Compounds	49

4.1.1	Minimum torque and scorch time	49
4.1.2	Maximum torque and delta cure	50
4.1.3	Cure rate index	50
4.1.4	Cure time	51
4.2 Physico-mechanical Properties of CIIR Compounds		52
4.2.1	Tensile properties (before ageing)	52
4.2.2	Elongation at break (before ageing)	53
4.2.3	Tensile properties (after ageing)	53
4.2.4	Elongation at break (after ageing)	54
4.2.5	Tear strength (before ageing)	55
4.2.6	Tear strength (after ageing)	55
4.2.7	Hardness	56
4.2.8	Rebound resilience	57
4.2.9	Compression set	58
4.2.10	Abrasion volume loss	58
4.2.11	Water swelling	59
4.2.12	Tan δ at 60 $^{\circ}$ C	60
4.2.13	Resistance to Flex-cracking	60
4.3 Cure characteristics of the series of CIIR /NR Blends with a carbon - black: silica filler ratio of 50:10		61
4.3.1	Minimum torque and scorch time	61
4.3.2	Maximum torque and delta cure	62
4.3.3	Cure time	62
4.3.4	Cure rate index	63

4.4 Physico-mechanical Properties of CIIR /NR Blends with a carbon - black: silica filler ratio of 50:10	64
4.4.1 Tensile properties (before ageing)	64
4.4.2 Elongation at break (before ageing)	65
4.4.3 Tensile properties (after ageing)	65
4.4.4 Elongation at break (after ageing)	66
4.4.5 Tear strength (before ageing)	67
4.4.6 Tear strength (after ageing)	67
4.4.7 Hardness	68
4.4.8 Rebound resilience	69
4.4.9 Compression set	69
4.4.10 Abrasion volume loss	70
4.4.11 Water swelling	71
4.4.12 Tan δ at 60 °C	71
4.4.13 Resistance to Flex-cracking	72
4.5 Cure characteristics of the series of CIIR /NR Blends with a carbon - black: silica filler ratio of 20:40	72
4.5.1 Minimum torque and scorch time	72
4.5.2 Maximum torque and delta cure	73
4.5.3 Cure rate index	74
4.5.4 Cure time	75
4.6 Physico-mechanical Properties of CIIR /NR Blends with a carbon - black: silica filler ratio of 20:40	75

4.6.1	Tensile properties (before ageing)	75
4.6.2	Elongation at break (before ageing)	76
4.6.3	Tensile properties (after ageing)	77
4.6.4	Elongation at break (after ageing)	77
4.6.5	Tear strength (before ageing)	78
4.6.6	Tear strength (after ageing)	79
4.6.7	Hardness	79
4.6.8	Rebound resilience	80
4.6.9	Compression set	81
4.6.10	Abrasion volume loss	81
4.6.11	Water swelling	82
4.6.12	Tan δ at 60 °C	83
4.6.13	Resistance to Flex-cracking	83
4.7	Cure characteristics of the series of CIIR /NR Blends with a carbon - black: silica filler ratio of 10:50	84
4.7.1	Minimum torque and scorch time	84
4.7.2	Maximum torque and delta cure	84
4.7.3	Cure rate index	85
4.7.4	Cure time	86
4.8	Physico-mechanical Properties of CIIR /NR Blends with a carbon - black: silica filler ratio of 10:50	86
4.8.1	Tensile properties (before ageing)	86
4.8.2	Elongation at break (before ageing)	87
4.8.3	Tensile properties (after ageing)	88
4.8.4	Elongation at break (after ageing)	89

4.8.5	Tear strength (before ageing)	89
4.8.6	Tear strength (after ageing)	90
4.8.7	Hardness	91
4.8.8	Rebound resilience	91
4.8.9	Compression set	92
4.8.10	Abrasion volume loss	93
4.8.11	Water swelling	94
4.8.12	Tan δ at 60 °C	94
4.8.13	Resistance to Flex-cracking	95
4.9	Air Permeability of Compounds	95
CHAPTER FIVE – CONCLUSIONS & RECOMMENDATION FOR FUTURE WORK		97
5.1	Conclusions	97
5.2	Recommendation for Future Work	98
REFERENCES		99
Appendix 1		103
Appendix 2		111
Appendix 3		117



Electronic Theses & Dissertations
www.lib.mrt.ac.lk

LIST OF FIGURES

	Page
Figure 2.1 Structure of cis-1, 4- polyisoprene	5
Figure 2.2 Structure of chlorobutyl rubber	7
Figure 3.1 Description of a cure curve	38
Figure 3.2 Diagram of a dumb bell test piece used for the analysis of tensile strength	40
Figure 3.3 Diagram of the angle test piece used for the analysis of tear Strength	41
Figure 3.4 Gas permeability tester	45
Figure 4.1 Variation of minimum torque and scorch time with carbon black: silica filler ratio	49
Figure 4.2 Variation of maximum torque and delta cure with carbon black: silica filler ratio	50
Figure 4.3 Variation of cure rate index with carbon black: silica filler ratio	51
Figure 4.4 Variation of cure time with carbon black: silica filler ratio	51
Figure 4.5 Variation of tensile properties (before ageing) with carbon black: silica filler ratio	52
Figure 4.6 Variation of elongation at break (before ageing) with carbon black: silica filler ratio	53
Figure 4.7 Variation of tensile properties (after ageing) with carbon black: silica filler ratio	54
Figure 4.8 Variation of elongation at break (after ageing) with carbon black: silica filler ratio	54
Figure 4.9 Variation of tear strength (before ageing) with carbon black: silica filler ratio	55

Figure 4.10	Variation of tear strength (after ageing) with carbon black: silica filler ratio	56
Figure 4.11	Variation of hardness with carbon black: silica filler ratio	57
Figure 4.12	Variation of resilience with carbon black: silica filler ratio	57
Figure 4.13	Variation of compression set with carbon black: silica filler ratio	58
Figure 4.14	Variation of abrasion volume loss with carbon black: silica filler ratio	59
Figure 4.15	Variation of water swelling with carbon black: silica filler ratio	59
Figure 4.16	Variation of $\tan \delta$ at 60 °C with carbon black: silica filler ratio	60
Figure 4.17	Variation of minimum torque and scorch time with CIIR: NR ratio (carbon black: silica filler ratio is 50:10)	61
Figure 4.18	Variation of maximum torque and delta cure with CIIR: NR ratio (carbon black: silica filler ratio is 50:10)	62
Figure 4.19	Variation of cure time with CIIR:NR ratio (carbon black: silica filler ratio is 50:10)	63
Figure 4.20	Variation of cure rate index with CIIR:NR ratio (carbon black: silica filler ratio is 50:10)	63
Figure 4.21	Variation of tensile properties (before ageing) with CIIR: NR ratio (carbon black: silica filler ratio is 50:10)	64
Figure 4.22	Variation of elongation at break (before ageing) with CIIR: NR ratio (carbon black: silica filler ratio is 50:10)	65
Figure 4.23	Variation of tensile properties (after ageing) with CIIR: NR ratio (carbon black: silica filler ratio is 50:10)	66
Figure 4.24	Variation of elongation at break (after ageing) with CIIR: NR ratio (carbon black: silica filler ratio is 50:10)	66

Figure 4.25	Variation of tear strength (before ageing) with CIIR: NR ratio (carbon black: silica filler ratio is 50:10)	67
Figure 4.26	Variation of tear strength (after ageing) with CIIR: NR ratio (carbon black: silica filler ratio is 50:10)	68
Figure 4.27	Variation of hardness with CIIR:NR ratio (carbon black: silica filler ratio is 50:10)	68
Figure 4.28	Variation of resilience with CIIR:NR ratio (carbon black: silica filler ratio is 50:10)	69
Figure 4.29	Variation of compression set with CIIR:NR ratio (carbon black: silica filler ratio is 50:10)	70
Figure 4.30	Variation of abrasion volume loss set with CIIR: NR ratio (carbon black: silica filler ratio is 50:10)	70
Figure 4.31	Variation of water swelling with CIIR:NR ratio (carbon black: silica filler ratio is 50:10)	71
Figure 4.32	Variation of $\tan \delta$ at 60 °C with CIIR:NR ratio (carbon black: silica filler ratio is 50:10)	72
Figure 4.33	Variation of minimum torque and scorch time with CIIR: NR ratio (carbon black: silica filler ratio is 20:40)	73
Figure 4.34	Variation of maximum torque and delta cure with CIIR: NR ratio (carbon black: silica filler ratio is 20:40)	74
Figure 4.35	Variation of cure rate index with CIIR:NR ratio (carbon black: silica filler ratio is 20:40)	74
Figure 4.36	Variation of cure time with CIIR:NR ratio (carbon black: silica filler ratio is 20:40)	75
Figure 4.37	Variation of tensile properties (before ageing) with CIIR: NR ratio (carbon black: silica filler ratio is 20:40)	76
Figure 4.38	Variation of elongation at break (before ageing) with CIIR: NR ratio (carbon black: silica filler ratio is 20:40)	76

Figure 4.39	Variation of tensile properties (after ageing) with CIIR: NR ratio (carbon black: silica filler ratio is 20:40)	77
Figure 4.40	Variation of elongation at break (after ageing) with CIIR: NR ratio (carbon black: silica filler ratio is 20:40)	78
Figure 4.41	Variation of tear strength (before ageing) with CIIR: NR ratio (carbon black: silica filler ratio is 20:40)	78
Figure 4.42	Variation of tear strength (after ageing) with CIIR: NR ratio (carbon black: silica filler ratio is 20:40)	79
Figure 4.43	Variation of hardness with CIIR:NR ratio (carbon black: silica filler ratio is 20:40)	80
Figure 4.44	Variation of resilience with CIIR:NR ratio (carbon black: silica filler ratio is 20:40)	80
Figure 4.45	Variation of compression set with CIIR:NR ratio (carbon black: silica filler ratio is 20:40)	81
Figure 4.46	Variation of abrasion volume loss with CIIR:NR ratio (carbon black: silica filler ratio is 20:40)	82
Figure 4.47	Variation of water swelling with CIIR:NR ratio (carbon black: silica filler ratio is 20:40)	82
Figure 4.48	Variation of $\tan \delta$ at 60 °C with CIIR:NR ratio (carbon black: silica filler ratio is 10:50)	83
Figure 4.49	Variation of minimum torque and scorch time with CIIR: NR ratio (carbon black: silica filler ratio is 10:50)	84
Figure 4.50	Variation of maximum torque and delta cure with CIIR: NR ratio (carbon black: silica filler ratio is 10:50)	85
Figure 4.51	Variation of cure rate index with CIIR:NR ratio (carbon black: silica filler ratio is 10:50)	85
Figure 4.52	Variation of cure time with CIIR:NR ratio (carbon black: silica filler ratio is 10:50)	86

Figure 4.53	Variation of tensile properties (before ageing) with CIIR: NR ratio (carbon black: silica filler ratio is 10:50)	87
Figure 4.54	Variation of elongation at break (before ageing) with CIIR: NR ratio (carbon black: silica filler ratio is 10:50)	88
Figure 4.55	Variation of tensile properties (after ageing) with CIIR: NR ratio (carbon black: silica filler ratio is 10:50)	88
Figure 4.56	Variation of elongation at break (after ageing) with CIIR: NR ratio (carbon black: silica filler ratio is 10:50)	89
Figure 4.57	Variation of tear strength (before ageing) with CIIR: NR ratio (carbon black: silica filler ratio is 10:50)	90
Figure 4.58	Variation of tear strength (after ageing) with CIIR: NR ratio (carbon black: silica filler ratio is 10:50)	90
Figure 4.59	Variation of hardness with CIIR:NR ratio (carbon black: silica filler ratio is 10:50)	91
Figure 4.60	Variation of resilience with CIIR:NR ratio (carbon black: silica filler ratio is 10:50)	92
Figure 4.61	Variation of compression set with CIIR:NR ratio (carbon black: silica filler ratio is 10:50)	93
Figure: 4.62	Variation of abrasion volume loss with CIIR:NR ratio (carbon black: silica filler ratio is 10:50)	93
Figure: 4.63	Variation of water swelling with CIIR:NR ratio (carbon black: silica filler ratio is 10:50)	94
Figure: 4.64	Variation of $\tan \delta$ at 60 °C with CIIR:NR ratio (carbon black: silica filler ratio is 10:50)	95

LIST OF TABLES

	Page
Table 3.1 Formulations of CIIR compounds	32
Table 3.2 Formulations of CIIR/NR blend compounds containing a 50:10 carbon black: silica filler ratio	34
Table 3.3 Formulations of NR/CIIR blend compounds containing a 20:40 carbon black: silica filler ratio	35
Table 3.4 Formulations of NR/CIIR blend compounds containing a 10:50 carbon black: silica filler ratio	36
Table 3.5 Mixing cycle of NR/CIIR blend compounds	37
Table 4.1 Air permeability values of compounds prepared with different CIIR: NR blend ratios	96



University of Moratuwa, Sri Lanka.
 Electronic Theses & Dissertations
www.lib.mrt.ac.lk

LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

Abbreviation	Description
BR	Butadiene rubber
°C	Centigrade
CV	Conventional Vulcanization
CR	Chloroprene rubber
CB	Carbon black
CV	Conventional vulcanization
CIIR	Chloro butyl rubber
CTAB	Cetyltrimethylammonium Bromide
DEG	Diethylene Glycol
EPDM	Ethylene propylene diene ter polymer
EB	Elongation at Break
EV	Efficient Vulcanization
F	Maximum force
G	Specific gravity
IR	Isoprene rubber
IIR	Butyl rubber
IPPD	N- phenyl, N'- isopropyl paraphenylene Diammine
IRHD	International Rubber Hardness Degrees
Kg	Kilogram
M	Mass
m	Meter
mm	Milli meter
MPa	Mega Pascal
MDR	Moving Die Rheometer
MBT	Mercaptobenzthiazole
MBTS	Dibenzothiazyl di sulfide
M _H	maximum torque



University of Moratuwa, Sri Lanka.
Electronic Theses & Dissertations
www.lib.mrt.ac.lk

M _L	Minimum torque
MOD	Modulus
100 % MOD	Modulus at 100 % elongation
300 % MOD	Modulus at 300 % elongation
500 % MOD	Modulus at 500 % elongation
NR	Natural Rubber
N	Normal cure
NBR	Acrylonitrile butadiene rubber (Nitrile Rubber)
O ₂	Oxygen
O ₃	Ozone
%	Percentage
phr	Parts per hundred rubber
PVI	Pre vulcanizing inhibitor
S	Sulphur
Semi EV	Semi Efficient Vulcanization
Si 69	bis-(3-triethoxysilylpropyl) tetrasulfane
SBR	Styrene butadiene rubber
VGC	Viscosity gravity constant
ZnO	Zinc Oxide



University of Moratuwa, Sri Lanka.
Electronic Theses & Dissertations
www.lib.mrt.ac.lk

Appendices

Appendix	Description	Page
Appendix 1		
Table 1	Cure characteristics and physico-mechanical properties of CIIR compounds	103
Table 2	Cure characteristics and physico-mechanical properties of CIIR /NR blend compounds with 50:10 carbon black: silica filler ratio	105
Table 3	Cure characteristics and physico-mechanical properties of CIIR /NR blend compounds with 20:40 carbon black: silica filler ratio	107
Table 4	Cure characteristics and physico-mechanical properties of CIIR /NR blend compounds with 10:50 carbon black: silica filler ratio	109
Appendix 2		
Table 1	Tensile properties of CIIR: NR blends for selected carbon black: silica ratios	111
Table 2	Tear strength of CIIR: NR blends for selected carbon black: silica ratios	112
Table 3	Elongation at break of CIIR: NR blends for selected carbon black: silica ratios	113
Table 4	Hardness of CIIR: NR blends for selected carbon black: silica ratios	113

Table 5	Abrasion volume loss of CIIR: NR blends for selected carbon black: silica ratios	114
Table 6	Resilience of CIIR: NR blends for selected carbon black: silica ratios	114
Table 7	Compression set of CIIR: NR blends for selected carbon black: silica ratios	115
Table 8	Water swelling of CIIR: NR blends for selected carbon black: silica ratios	116

Appendix 3

Figure 1	Rheograph of compound No. F-1	117
Figure 2	Rheograph of compound No. F-2	117
Figure 3	Rheograph of compound No. F-3	118
Figure 4	Rheograph of compound No. F-4	118
Figure 5	Rheograph of compound No. F-5	119
Figure 6	Rheograph of compound No. F-6	119
Figure 7	Rheograph of compound No. F-7	120
Figure 8	Rheograph of compound No. F-2-2	120
Figure 9	Rheograph of compound No. F-2-3	121
Figure 10	Rheograph of compound No. F-2-4	121
Figure 11	Rheograph of compound No. F-2-5	122
Figure 12	Rheograph of compound No. F-2-6	122
Figure 13	Rheograph of compound No. F-5-2	123
Figure 14	Rheograph of compound No. F-5-3	123
Figure 15	Rheograph of compound No. F-5-4	124
Figure 16	Rheograph of compound No. F-5-5	124
Figure 17	Rheograph of compound No. F-5-6	125
Figure 18	Rheograph of compound No. F-6-2	125

Figure 19 Rheograph of compound No. F-6-3	126
Figure 20 Rheograph of compound No. F-6-4	126
Figure 21 Rheograph of compound No. F-6-5	127
Figure 22 Rheograph of compound No. F-6-6	127

1.1 Background

Polymer blends are used to combine the desired properties of individual polymer components in macromolecular products with enhanced properties. Careful selection of mixing of the component polymer is strictly essential. There are many ways of developing polymer blends namely chemical blending and physical blending. Physical properties are also determined by the physical structure of the blend (Cohen & Paul, 1962).

For many practical purposes, various grades of pre-manufactured elastomers of two or more rubbers, natural rubber is blended with synthetic rubbers for a wide variety of purposes. These blends offer considerable potential for the development of future new materials.



University of Moratuwa, Sri Lanka.
Electronic Theses & Dissertations
www.lib.mrt.ac.lk

Most elastic blending concepts to be based on physical blending procedures and are usually carried out using internal mixers, two-roll mills and extruders. The properties of new materials formed after blending are often determined by the exact blending conditions. An elastomer blend need not be necessarily physically homogeneous as various good physical properties.

Rubber products manufacturers currently using their special purpose synthetic rubbers of specialty rubbers to their advantage they will find that use of blends of these rubbers with NR will enable them to achieve improvement in mechanical properties and reduced compound cost by substituting part of the synthetic component with NR.