

## Laporan Akhir Projek Penyelidikan Jangka Pendek

# Potential Of Oil Palm Ash As A New Filler in Natural Rubber Compounds

By Prof. Dr. Hanafi Ismail



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2 Januari 2014

## Tuan,

Laporan Akhir Projek Penyelidikan ScienceFund: "Potential of Oil Palm Ash As A Filler in Natural Rubber Compounds (305/PBAHAN/6013380) No Projek: 03-01-05-SF0491

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Saya dengan hormatnya merujuk kepada perkara di atas.

2. Bersama surat ini saya sertakan Laporan Akhir Projek (HardCopy) bersama bahan-bahan bukti. Saya juga telah mengemukakan Laporan Akhir Projek secara online melalui system eSciencefund.

Sekian, terima kasih.

Yang Benag

(PROF DR HANAFI ISMAIL, FASc)



## End of Project Report For ScienceFund

A.	Description of the Project	
1.	Project number	: 03-01-05-SF0491
2.	Project Title	: Potential of oil palm ash as a new filler in natural rubber compounds
3.	Project Leader	: Hanafi Ismail
4.	Project Team	: .
	(please provide an assessment of how the proj structure or actual man-days utilised)	ect team performed and highlight any significant departures from plan in either
	All the project team members are in S Engineering Campus, USM, Nibong T	chool of Materials and Mineral Resources Engineering, Tebal, Penang
5.	Industrial Partnership	:
	(Please describe the nature of collaborators wi	th relevant industry)
	United Oil Palm Industries Sdn Bhd -	provide the oil palm ash for research project.
6.	National/International Collaboration	:
	(Please identify research organisations and de	scribe the nature of collaboration)
7.	Project Duration	: 24(months)
	Start date	: October (month) 2011 (year)
	End date	: September (month) 2013 (year)
8.	Total Budget Approved	: RM 183504

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В.	Objectives of the Project	
1.	Socio-economic Objectives (SEO)	
	Which socio-economic objectives are addresse SEO Group under which the project falls. Refer	ed by the project? (Please identify the Research Priority Area, SEO Category and to the Malaysian R&D Classification System, 4th Edition.
	Research Priority Area	: INDUSTRY Sub Cluster : Advanced Material
	SEO Category	: Natural Sciences, Technologies and Engineering
	SEO Group	: Applied Sciences and Technologies
	SEO Area	: Applied Sciences and Technologies
2.	Fields of Research (FOR)	
	Which are the two main FOR Categories, FOR Classification System, 4th Edition)	Groups, and FOR Areas of your project? (please refer to the Malaysian R&D
a.	Primary field of research	
	FOR Category	: Environmental Sciences
	FOR Group	: Applied Sciences and Technologies
	FOR Area	: Other environment technology/ industry
b.	Secondary Field of research	
	FOR Category	: Material Sciences
	FOR Group	: Polymeric Materials
	FOR Area	: Polymer composites
	Objective Achievement	
<b>U</b> .	Onlacting Wollightering III	

#### - Original project objectives

(Please state the specific project objectives as described in Section II of the Application Form)

The aim of the study is to investigate the properties of oil palm ash (OPA) filled in natural rubber compounds which will be compounded using a conventional two roll mill followed by compression molded. Specifically, the objectives of the study are:

1. To utilize the OPA as a new filler in natural rubber compounds and study the effect of OPA loading on curing characteristics, tensile properties, thermal properties, swelling behavior, morphology of tensile fracture surface and Fourier transform infrared (FT-IR) of the palm oil ash filled natural rubber compounds.

2. To evaluate the effect of modification of OPA on the properties of natural rubber compounds in term of curing characteristics, tensile properties, thermal properties, swelling behavior, morphology of tensile fracture surface and Fourier transform infrared (FT-IR) of the OPA filled natural rubber compounds.

3. To determine the potential application of OPA filled natural rubber compounds.

### - Objective Achieved

(Please state the extent to which the project objectives were achieved)

All original objectives were achieved.

#### - Objectives not achieved

(Please identify the objectives that were not achieved and give reasons)

N/A

End of Project Report

January 2006 Science Fund

D.	Technology Transfer / Commercialisation Approach, if any.
	(Please describe the approach planned to transfer/commercialise the results of the project)
E.	Assessment of Research Approach
<b>—</b>	
	(Please highlight the main steps actually performed and indicate any major departure from the planned approach or any major difficulty encountered)
	Research approach was done according to initial proposed project.
F.	Assessment of the Project Schedule
	(Please make any relevant comment regarding the actual duration of the project and highlight any significant variation from plan)
	The project was completed according to the milestone even though the 2nd year allocation was not received on time.
G.	Assessment of Project Cost
	(Please comment on the appropriateness of the original budget and highlight any major departure from the planned budget)
	Although RM 189,504.00 was approved for this project, but the allocation for 2nd year RM136,985.00
	However, the allocation was used accordingly and the balance at the end of this project was RM 62.89. (Statement from Bendahari USM as shown in appendix A)
н.	Additional Project Funding Obtained
	(In case of involvement of other funding sources, please indicate the source and total funding provided)

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## Benefits of the Project

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(please identify the actual benefits arising from the project as defined in Section III of the Application form. For examples of outputs, organisational outcomes and sectoral/national impacts, please refer to Section III of the Guidelines for the Application of R&D Funding under ScienceFund)

### 1. Direct Outputs of the Project

(Please describe as specifically as possible the outputs achieved and provide an assessment of their significant to users)

- i. Technical contribution of the project
  - a. What was the achieved direct output of the project :

For basic oriented research projects?

			Algorithm			
			Structure			
		x	data			
			Other, please specify :			
		For	applied research (technology development) projects :			
		X	Method/technique			
			Demonstrator/prototype			
		x	Product/component			
			Process			
			Software			
			Other, please specify:			
	b.	Ho	w would you characterise the quality of this out	put?		
		$\square$	Signifcant breakthrough			
		X	Major improvement			
			Minor Improvement			
11	Co	ntrib	ution of the project to knowledge			
••	a.	Ho	w has the output of the project been document	ed		
		X	Detail project report			
			Products/process specification documents			
		┢	Other, please specify :			
	b.	Did	J the project create an intellectual property stoc	k?		
			Patent obtained			
		┢──	Patent pending			
			Patent application will be filed			
		$\vdash$	Copyright			
	c.	Wh	at publications are available?		National	International
		X	Article(s) in scientific publications	How many :	0	8
		X	Paper(s) delivered at conferences/seminars	How many :	5	4
			Book	How many :	0	0
			Other, please specify :			
			-			

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.		d.	How significant are citations of the results?		
			Citations in national publications	How many :	0
.			X Citations in international publications	How many :	4
			Not yet		i
			Not known		
	2. (	Organis	ational Outcomes of the Project		
	( t	Please d heir sign	escribe as specifically as possible the organisational benefits arising from the ficance)	e project and provide	an assessment of
	i	i. Coi	ntribution of the project to expertise development		
		a.	How did the project contribute to experties?		
			X PhD degrees	How many :	1
			X MSc degrees	How many :	1
			Research staff with new specialty	How many :	0
			Other, please specify :		
		b.	How Significant is this expertise?		
			One of the key areas of priority for Malaysia		
			X An important area, but not a priority one		
	i	i. Ecc	nomic contribution of the project?		
		а.	How has the economic contribution of the poroject materialis	ed?	
			Sales of manufactured product/equipment		
			Royalties from licensing		
			X Cost savings		
			Time savings		
			Other, please specify :		
		b.	How important is this economic contribution?		
			High economic contribution	How many :	RM0
			Medium economic contribution	How many :	RM0
			X Low economic contribution	How many :	RM0
		C.	When has this economic contribution materialised?		
			Already materialised		
			Within months of project completion		
			Within three years of project completion		
			X Expected in three years or more		
			Unknown		

End of Project Report

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	iii.	Infr	rastructural contribution of the project	
		a.	What infrastructure contribution has the project had?	
			New equipment	Value : RM0
			New/improved facility	Investment : RM0
			X New information networks	
			Other, please specify :	
		b.	How significant is this infrastructure contribution for the organis	sation?
			Not significant/does not leverage other projects	
			X Moderately significant	
			Very significant/significantly leverages other projects	
	iv.	Co	ntribution of the project to the organisation's reputation	
		a.	How has the project contributed to increasing the reputation of	the organisation
			Regconition as a Center of Excellence	
			X National award	
			International award	
			Demand for advisory services	
			X invitations to give speeches on conferences	
			Visits from other organisations	
			Other, please specify :	
		b.	How important is the project's contribution to the organisation's	reputation?
			Not significant	
			X Moderately significant	
			Very significant	
3.	Nat	iona	al Impacts of the project	
	(If ki the j	nown proje	n at this point in time, please describe as specifically as possible the potential se ct and provide an assessment of their significance)	ctoral/national benefits arising from
	i.	Co	ntribution of the project to organisational linkages	
		a.	Which kinds of linkages did the project create?	
			X Domestic industry linkages	
			International industry linkages	
			X Linkages with domestic research institutions, universities	
			Linkages with international research institutions, universitie	35
		b.	What is the nature of the linkages?	
			Staff exchanges	
			X inter-organisational project team	
			Research contract with a commercial client	
			Informal consultation	
			Other, please specify :	

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	а.	Who are the direct customer/beneficiaries of the	project output?
		Customers/beneficiaries	Number
		Palm Oil Industries	
		Total	
	b.	How has/will the socio-economic contribution of	the project materialised?
		Improvements in health	
		Improvements in safety	
		X improvements in the environment	
		Improvements in energy consumption/supply	4
		Improvements in international relations	
		Other, please specify :	
	c.	How important is this socio-economic contributio	n?
		High social contribution	
		X Medium social contribution	
		Low social contribution	
	d.	When has/will this social contribution materialise	ed?
		Already materialised	
		Within three years of project completion	
		X Expected in three years or more	
		Unknown	
ate :		Signatu	ire :

## PROGRESS REPORT

	THOG			
Re	port Period : Jul-Dec 2013 (pleas	se indicate report pe	riod)	
Α.	PROJECT DETAILS			
	Project number : 03-01-05-SF0491			
	Project Title : Potential of oil palm a	sh as a new filler in r	natural rubber compo	unds
	Project Leader : Hanafi Ismail			
	Project Duration : 24(months)			
	Project Start date : October (month) 2011	(year)		
	Project End date : Sep (month) 2013 (ye	ar)		
	Tel 045996113 Fax 045941011	Email h	anafi@eng.usm.my	
В.	FINANCIAL PROGRESS			
	i. Approved Project Allocation : R	M 183,504.00		
	Year 1 (2011) : RM 46,519.00 Year 2 (2	2012):RM 136,985.00	) Year 3 (2013) : F	RM .00
	ii. Total Allocation Received Todate : RI	M 183,504.00		
	iii. Total Expenditure Todate : Ri	M 183,442.00 or 1	00 (Total Expenditure / To 100)	tal Allocation received X
	iv. Balance of Allocation Todate : Ri	M 62.00		
	v. Actual Project Expenditure (Please rel	port total cumulative ex	penditure up to the pas	st report period)
			· · · · · ·	
	Project Cost Components	Total Approved Budget ( RM)	Total Allocation Received (RM)	Total Cumulative Expenditure (RM)
	* Temporary and contract personnel (V11000)	73,254.00	73,254.00	43,089.00
	* Travel and transportation (V21000)	18,750.00	18,750.00	12,402.00
	* Rentals (V24000)	4,000.00	4,000.00	0.00
	<ul> <li>Research materials and supplies (V26000)</li> </ul>	57,000.00	57,000.00	108,263.00
	<ul> <li>Minor modifications and repairs (V28000)</li> </ul>	9,500.00	9,500.00	5,734.00
	* Special services (V29000)	21,000.00	21,000.00	13,954.00

Is this performance in line with plan?

No (Please complete para vi and vii)

0.00

183,504.00

0.00

183,442.00

vi. Reasons for variations from budget

Special equipment and accessories

(Please provide the reasons)

0.00

183,504.00

vii. Proposed corrective action (Please give details of the proposed action)

X Yes

(V35000)

Total

Total direct expenses

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## C. PHYSICAL PROGRESS

### i. Milestone Achievement

No	Planned	Planned Milestone Date (MM/yyyy)	Achieved *(Yes/No)	Actual Completion Date (MM/yyyy)
1	Preliminary Stage: Preparation of oil palm ash (OPA) and compounding of new OPA filled NR compounds	12/2011	Yes	12/2011
2	Stage 1: Study of cure characteristic, mechanical properties, thermal properties with different load	08/2012	Yes	08/2012
3	Stage 2: Improving the properties of new OPA filled NR compounds by modifying the OPA particles	02/2013	Yes	02/2013
4	Stage 3: Data analysis and determination of the potential application OPA filled NR compounds	06/2013	Yes	06/2013
5	Project Completion	09/2013	Yes	09/2013

**ii. Project Achievement** (please provide details on the project achievements, its status and prospects with regards to the followings:)

1. Intellectual Property Rights (Patent, Industrial Design, Trademark, Copyright etc)

2. Publications and papers (International, national, books, citations etc)

1) Ooi, Z.X., Ismail, H., and Abu Bakar, A. (2012). A comparative study of ageing characteristics and morphology of oil palm ash, silica, and carbon blacks filled natural rubber compounds. In: National Symposium on Polymeric Materials 2012 (NSPM 2012), 3rd - 5th October 2012, SERC Universiti Sains M

4) Ooi, Z.X., Ismail, H., and Abu Bakar, A. (2013). A comparative study of ageing characteristics and thermal stability of oil palm ash, silica, and carbon black filled natural rubber vulcanizates. Journal of Applied Polymer Science, 130(6): 4474-4481.

4) Ooi, Z.X., Ismail, H., and Abu Bakar, A. (2013). Curing and tensile behavior of untreated and treated-oil palm ash reinforced natural rubber composites. In: 22nd Scientific Conference of Microscopy Society Malaysia (MSM 2013), 26th - 28th November 2013, Primula Beach Hotel, Terengganu, Malaysia.

1) Ooi, Z.X., Ismail, H., and Abu Bakar, A. (2012). The effect of oil palm ash loading on curing characteristics and tensile properties of natural rubber vulcanizates. In: The 8th Asian-Australasian Conference on Composite Materials (ACCM-8), 6th - 8th November 2012, Kuala Lumpur Convention Centre,

2) Ooi, Z.X., Ismail, H., and Abu Bakar, A. (2012). Curing characteristics, tensile properties, morphological of oil palm ash filled in natural rubber compound: In comparison with silica and carbon black. In: 21st Scientific Conference of The Microscopy Society Malaysia, 22nd - 24th November 2012, R

9) Ooi, Z.X., Ismail, H., and Abu Bakar, A. (2013). Curing Characteristics, Mechanical, Morphological, and Swelling Assessment of Liquid Epoxidized Natural Rubber Coated Oil Palm Ash Reinforced Natural Rubber Composites. Polymer Testing, Accepted & In-Press.

2) Ooi, Z.X., Ismail, H., and Abu Bakar, A. (2013). Dynamic mechanical properties and tensile behavior of oil palm ash filled natural rubber vulcanizates. In: The 1st Asia Pacific Rubber Conference (APRC 2013), 5th - 6th September 2013, Diamond Plaza Hotel, Surat Thani, Thailand.

3) Ooi, Z.X., Ismail, H., and Abu Bakar, A. (2013). The Effect of Hydrochloric Acid Treatment on Properties of Oil Palm Ash-filled Natural Rubber Composites. BioResources, 8(4): 5133-5144.

4) Ismail, H., Ooi, Z.X., and Abu Bakar, A. (2013). Oil palm ash (OPA) as a new reinforcing filler in natural rubber composites. In: 12th International Conference on Frontiers of Polymers and Advanced Materials (ICFPAM 2013), 8-13 December 2013, Owen G Glenn Building, University of Auckland, New Zea

5) Ooi, Z.X., Ismail, H., and Abu Bakar, A. (2014). Dynamic Mechanical Properties and Tensile Behavior of Oil Palm Ash Filled Natural Rubber Vulcanizates. Advanced Materials Research, 844: 305-308.

1) Ooi, Z.X., Ismail, H., and Abu Bakar, A. (2013). Synergistic effect of oil palm ash filled natural rubber compound at low filler loading. Polymer Testing, 32(1): 38-44.

7) Ooi, Z.X., Ismail, H., and Abu Bakar, A. (2013). Characterization and Properties of Pretreatment Effect on Oil Palm Ash Filled Natural Rubber Vulcanizates. Polymer-Plastics Technology and Engineering, Accepted & In-Press.

8) Ooi, Z.X., Ismail, H., and Abu Bakar, A. (2013). Chemically modified Oil Palm Ash-Filled Natural Rubber Composites and Its Properties. Polymer Composites, Accepted & In-Press

5) Ooi, Z.X., Ismail, H., and Abu Bakar, A. (2013). Thermo-oxidative ageing of untreated and treated-oil palm ash filled natural rubber composites. In: 22nd Scientific Conference of Microscopy Society Malaysia (MSM 2013), 26th - 28th November 2013, Primula Beach Hotel, Terengganu, Malaysia.

2) Ooi, Z.X., Ismail, H., and Abu Bakar, A. (2013). Optimisation of oil palm ash as reinforcement in natural rubber vulcanisation: A comparison between silica and carbon black fillers. Polymer Testing, 32(4): 625-630.

3) Ooi, Z.X., Ismail, H., and Abu Bakar, A. (2013). Effect of cetyltrimethylammonium bromide on tensile properties of natural rubber/oil palm ash vulcanizates. In: Mini Symposium Universiti Sains Malaysia (USM) -Nagaoka University of Technology (NUT), 21st October 2013, Science and Engineering Resea

3) Ooi, Z.X., Ismail, H., and Abu Bakar, A. (2012). Study on ageing characteristics of oil palm ash filled natural rubber compound. In: 21st Scientific Conference of The Microscopy Society Malaysia, 22nd - 24th November 2012, Renaissance Kota Bharu Hotel, Kota Bharu Hotel, Kelantan, Malaysia.

6) Ooi, Z.X., Ismail, H., and Abu Bakar, A. (2013). Characterization of Oil Palm Ash (OPA) and Thermal Properties of OPA Filled Natural Rubber Compounds. Journal of Elastomers and Plastics, Accepted & In-Press.

3. Expertise Development (PhD, Masters, Research Staff with new specialty etc)

1 MSC student has graduated and 1 Phd in the process of submitting thesis

- 4. Prototype (prototype name, type eg, lab scale, engineering scale, commercial scale etc)
- 5. Commercialisation (licensing, royalty, spin-off, direct sale etc)
- iii. General Comment (please provide additional information, if any, on the future direction of this project in

terms of its prospects to commercialization)

All 3 milestones were successfully achieved including milestone no.3 where Oil Palm Ash can be used as reinforcing filler to replace commercial fillers such as carbon black and silica in natural rubber products. However, the filler loading used was not not more than 10 phr.

1. Jamos Date: 2014 Signature : 2 Progress Report

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End of	Project	Report	For	ScienceFu	nd

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Α.	Description of the Project	
1.	Project number	: 03-01-05-SF0491
2.	Project Title	: Potential of oil palm ash as a new filler in natural rubber compounds
3.	Project Leader	: Hanafi Ismail
4.	Project Team	:
	(please provide an assessment of how the proj structure or actual man-days utilised)	ject team performed and highlight any significant departures from plan in either
	All the project team members are in S Engineering Campus, USM, Nibong T	School of Materials and Mineral Resources Engineering, Febal, Penang
5.	Industrial Partnership	:
	(Please describe the nature of collaborators wi	th relevant industry)
	United Oil Palm Industries Sdn Bhd -	provide the oil palm ash for research project.
6.	National/International Collaboration	:
	(Please identify research organisations and de	scribe the nature of collaboration)
7.	Project Duration	: 24(months)
	Start date	: October (month) 2011 (year)
	End date	: September (month) 2013 (year)
8.	Total Budget Approved	: RM 183504

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В.	Objectives of the Project	·······	
1.	Socio-economic Objectives (	SEO)	
	Which socio-economic objectives are SEO Group under which the project	e addressed by the project? (Pleas falls. Refer to the Malaysian R&D (	e identify the Research Priority Area, SEO Catego Classification System, 4th Edition.
	Research Priority Area	: INDUSTRY	Sub Cluster : Advanced Materia
	SEO Category	: Natural Science	s, Technologies and Engineering
	SEO Group	: Applied Science	s and Technologies
	SEO Area	: Applied Science	s and Technologies
2.	Fields of Research (FOR)		
	Which are the two main FOR Catego Classification System, 4th Edition)	pries, FOR Groups, and FOR Areas	s of your project? (please refer to the Malaysian R $\delta$
a.	Primary field of research		
	FOR Category	: Environmental S	ciences
	FOR Group	: Applied Science	s and Technologies
	FOR Area	: Other environme	ent technology/ industry
b.	Secondary Field of research		
	FOR Category	: Material Science	95
	FOR Group	: Polymeric Mater	ials
	FOR Group FOR Area	: Polymeric Mater : Polymer compos	ials sites
<u>C.</u>	FOR Group FOR Area Objective Achievement	: Polymeric Mater : Polymer compos	ials sites
<u>C.</u>	FOR Group FOR Area Objective Achievement - Original project objectives	: Polymeric Mater : Polymer compos	ials sites
C.	FOR Group FOR Area Objective Achievement - Original project objectives (Please state the specific project	: Polymeric Mater : Polymer compos	ials sites n II of the Application Form)
C.	FOR Group FOR Area Objective Achievement - Original project objectives (Please state the specific project The aim of the study is to compounds which will be molded. Specifically, the	: Polymeric Mater : Polymer composes s s ct objectives as described in Section investigate the properties of compounded using a conver- objectives of the study are:	ials sites n II of the Application Form) f oil palm ash (OPA) filled in natural rubb ntional two roll mill followed by compress
C.	FOR Group FOR Area Objective Achievement - Original project objectives (Please state the specific project The aim of the study is to compounds which will be molded. Specifically, the of 1. To utilize the OPA as a on curing characteristics, tensile fracture surface ar compounds.	: Polymeric Mater : Polymer composes set objectives as described in Section investigate the properties of compounded using a conver- objectives of the study are: new filler in natural rubber of tensile properties, thermal pro- tensile properties, thermal pro- tensile properties, thermal pro- tensile properties, thermal pro-	ials sites n II of the Application Form) f oil palm ash (OPA) filled in natural rubb ntional two roll mill followed by compress compounds and study the effect of OPA properties, swelling behavior, morphology I (FT-IR) of the palm oil ash filled natural
C.	<ul> <li>FOR Group</li> <li>FOR Area</li> <li>Objective Achievement</li> <li>Original project objectives (Please state the specific project (Please state the specific project)</li> <li>The aim of the study is to compounds which will be molded. Specifically, the of 1. To utilize the OPA as a on curing characteristics, tensile fracture surface ar compounds.</li> <li>2. To evaluate the effect of term of curing characteristics of tensile fracture surface compounds.</li> </ul>	: Polymeric Mater : Polymer compose set objectives as described in Section investigate the properties of compounded using a conver- objectives of the study are: a new filler in natural rubber of tensile properties, thermal p ind Fourier transform infrared of modification of OPA on the tics, tensile properties, thermal and Fourier transform infrared	ials sites n II of the Application Form) f oil palm ash (OPA) filled in natural rubb ntional two roll mill followed by compress compounds and study the effect of OPA properties, swelling behavior, morphology I (FT-IR) of the palm oil ash filled natural e properties of natural rubber compound nal properties, swelling behavior, morph red (FT-IR) of the OPA filled natural rubb
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C.	<ul> <li>FOR Group</li> <li>FOR Area</li> <li>Objective Achievement</li> <li>Original project objectives (Please state the specific project The aim of the study is to compounds which will be molded. Specifically, the of 1. To utilize the OPA as a on curing characteristics, tensile fracture surface ar compounds.</li> <li>2. To evaluate the effect of term of curing characteristics of tensile fracture surface compounds.</li> <li>3. To determine the poter</li> <li>Objective Achieved (Please state the extent to which</li> </ul>	: Polymeric Mater : Polymer composes s compounded using a conver- objectives as described in Section investigate the properties of compounded using a conver- objectives of the study are: new filler in natural rubber of tensile properties, thermal pro- tensile pro	ials sites n II of the Application Form) f oil palm ash (OPA) filled in natural rubb ntional two roll mill followed by compress compounds and study the effect of OPA properties, swelling behavior, morphology I (FT-IR) of the palm oil ash filled natural e properties of natural rubber compound nal properties, swelling behavior, morpho- red (FT-IR) of the OPA filled natural rubb I natural rubber compounds.
C.	<ul> <li>FOR Group</li> <li>FOR Area</li> <li>Objective Achievement</li> <li>Original project objectives (Please state the specific project The aim of the study is to compounds which will be molded. Specifically, the of 1. To utilize the OPA as a on curing characteristics, tensile fracture surface ar compounds.</li> <li>2. To evaluate the effect of term of curing characteris of tensile fracture surface compounds.</li> <li>3. To determine the poter</li> <li>Objective Achieved (Please state the extent to which All original objectives wer</li> </ul>	: Polymeric Mater : Polymer composes s et objectives as described in Section investigate the properties of compounded using a conver- objectives of the study are: a new filler in natural rubber of tensile properties, thermal pro- tensile pro- perties, thermal pro- tensile pro- tensile pro- perties, thermal pro- tensile pro- perties pro- tensile pro- perties pro- tensile pro- perties pro- tensile pro- perties pro- tensile pro- perties pro- tensile pro- perties pro-	ials sites in II of the Application Form) f oil palm ash (OPA) filled in natural rubb intional two roll mill followed by compress compounds and study the effect of OPA I properties, swelling behavior, morphology I (FT-IR) of the palm oil ash filled natural e properties of natural rubber compounds nal properties, swelling behavior, morpho red (FT-IR) of the OPA filled natural rubb I natural rubber compounds.
C.	<ul> <li>FOR Group</li> <li>FOR Area</li> <li>Objective Achievement</li> <li>Original project objectives (Please state the specific project The aim of the study is to compounds which will be molded. Specifically, the of 1. To utilize the OPA as a on curing characteristics, tensile fracture surface ar compounds.</li> <li>2. To evaluate the effect of term of curing characteristics of tensile fracture surface compounds.</li> <li>3. To determine the poter</li> <li>Objective Achieved (Please state the extent to which All original objectives wer</li> <li>Objectives not achieved</li> </ul>	: Polymeric Mater : Polymer composes s compounded using a conver- objectives as described in Section investigate the properties of compounded using a conver- objectives of the study are: a new filler in natural rubber of tensile properties, thermal pro- tensile pro- perties, thermal pro- tensile pro- tensile pro- perties, thermal pro- perties, thermal pro- tensile pro- perties, thermal pro- tensile pro-tensile pro-ten	ials sites In II of the Application Form) foil palm ash (OPA) filled in natural rubb intional two roll mill followed by compress compounds and study the effect of OPA I properties, swelling behavior, morphology I (FT-IR) of the palm oil ash filled natural e properties of natural rubber compounds nal properties, swelling behavior, morpho red (FT-IR) of the OPA filled natural rubb I natural rubber compounds.
C.	<ul> <li>FOR Group</li> <li>FOR Area</li> <li>Objective Achievement</li> <li>Original project objectives (Please state the specific project The aim of the study is to compounds which will be molded. Specifically, the of 1. To utilize the OPA as a on curing characteristics, tensile fracture surface ar compounds.</li> <li>2. To evaluate the effect of term of curing characteristics of tensile fracture surface compounds.</li> <li>3. To determine the poter</li> <li>Objective Achieved (Please state the extent to which All original objectives wer</li> <li>Objectives not achieved (Please identify the objectives the state the objectives the objectives</li></ul>	: Polymeric Mater : Polymer compose set objectives as described in Section investigate the properties of compounded using a conver- objectives of the study are: In new filler in natural rubber of tensile properties, thermal p and Fourier transform infrared of modification of OPA on the tics, tensile properties, thermal and Fourier transform infrared that application of OPA filled the project objectives were achies the achieved.	ials sites in II of the Application Form) f oil palm ash (OPA) filled in natural rubb intional two roll mill followed by compress compounds and study the effect of OPA I properties, swelling behavior, morphology I (FT-IR) of the palm oil ash filled natural e properties of natural rubber compounds nal properties, swelling behavior, morphology red (FT-IR) of the OPA filled natural rubb I natural rubber compounds. ved) sons)

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D.	Technology Transfer / Commercialisation Approach, if any.	
	(Please describe the approach planned to transfer/commercialise the results of the project)	
E.	Assessment of Research Approach	
	(Please highlight the main steps actually performed and indicate any major departure from the planned approach or any difficulty encountered)	
	Research approach was done according to initial proposed project.	
F.	Assessment of the Project Schedule	
	(Please make any relevant comment regarding the actual duration of the project and highlight any significant variation for The project was completed according to the milestone even though the 2nd year allocation was received on time.	
G.	Assessment of Project Cost	
	(Please comment on the appropriateness of the original budget and highlight any major departure from the planned budget	
	Although RM 189,504.00 was approved for this project, but the allocation for 2nd year RM136,98 was only received at the end of December 2012 and not according to the original budget allocate However, the allocation was used accordingly and the balance at the end of this project was RM (Statement from Bendahari USM as shown in appendix A)	
н.	Additional Project Funding Obtained	
ļ	(In case of involvement of other funding sources, please indicate the source and total funding provided)	

#### Benefits of the Project

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(please identify the actual benefits arising from the project as defined in Section III of the Application form. For examples of outputs, organisational outcomes and sectoral/national impacts, please refer to Section III of the Guidelines for the Application of R&D Funding under ScienceFund)

#### 1. Direct Outputs of the Project

(Please describe as specifically as possible the outputs achieved and provide an assessment of their significant to users)

- i. Technical contribution of the project
  - a. What was the achieved direct output of the project :

For basic oriented research projects? Algorithm Structure Х data Other, please specify : For applied research (technology development) projects : Х Method/technique Demonstrator/prototype Х Product/component Process Software Other, please specify: b. How would you characterise the quality of this output? Signifcant breakthrough Х Major improvement Minor Improvement Contribution of the project to knowledge ii a. How has the output of the project been documented Detail project report Х Products/process specification documents Other, please specify : b. Did the project create an intellectual property stock? Patent obtained Patent pending Patent application will be filed Copyright c. What publications are available? National International Article(s) in scientific publications 8 How many : 0 Х Paper(s) delivered at conferences/seminars How many: 5 4 Х How many: 0 0 Book Other, please specify :

d.	How significant are citations of the results?	- · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·						
	Citations in national publications	How many :	0					
	X Citations in international publications	How many :	4					
	Not yet							
	Not known							
2. Organisational Outcomes of the Project								
(Please describe as specifically as possible the organisational benefits arising from the project and provide an assessment of their significance)								
i. Co	ontribution of the project to expertise development							
a.	How did the project contribute to experties?							
	X PhD degrees	How many :	1					
	X MSc degrees	How many :	1					
	Research staff with new specialty	How many :	0					
	Other, please specify :	·						
b.	How Significant is this expertise?							
	One of the key areas of priority for Malaysia							
	X An important area, but not a priority one							
ii. Ed	ii. Economic contribution of the project?							
a.	How has the economic contribution of the poroject materialis	ed?						
	Sales of manufactured product/equipment							
	Royalties from licensing							
	X Cost savings							
	Time savings							
	Other, please specify :							
Ь Б	Low important is this according contribution?							
D.			DM0					
			RIVIO					
		How many :	RMU					
	X Low economic contribution	How many :	RMU					
c.	When has this economic contribution materialised?							
	Already materialised							
	Within months of project completion							
	Within three years of project completion							
	X Expected in three years or more							
	Unknown							

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	iii.	Infr	astructural contribution of the project		
		a.	What infrastructure contribution has the project had?		
			New equipment	Value :	RM0
			New/improved facility	Investment	: RM0
			X New information networks		
			Other, please specify :		
		b.	How significant is this infrastructure contribution for the organis	sation?	
			Not significant/does not leverage other projects		
			X Moderately significant		
			Very significant/significantly leverages other projects		
	iv.	Co	ntribution of the project to the organisation's reputation		
		a.	How has the project contributed to increasing the reputation of	the organisat	ion
			Regconition as a Center of Excellence		
			X National award		
			International award		
			Demand for advisory services		
			X invitations to give speeches on conferences		
			Visits from other organisations		
			Other, please specify :		
		b.	How important is the project's contribution to the organisation's	s reputation?	
			Not significant		
			X Moderately significant		
			Very significant		
3.	Nat	iona	I Impacts of the project		
	(If kr the p	nown projed	at this point in time, please describe as specifically as possible the potential se t and provide an assessment of their significance)	ectoral/national b	enefits arising from
	i.	Cor	ntribution of the project to organisational linkages		
		a.	Which kinds of linkages did the project create?		
			X Domestic industry linkages		
			International industry linkages		
			X Linkages with domestic research institutions, universities		
			Linkages with international research institutions, universitie	es	
		b.	What is the nature of the linkages?		
			Staff exchanges		
			X inter-organisational project team		
			Research contract with a commercial client		
			Informal consultation		
			Other, please specify :		

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	So	cial-economic contribution of the project			
	a.	Who are the direct customer/beneficiaries of the project output?			
		Customers/beneficiaries	Number		
		Palm Oil Industries	50		
		Total	50		
	b.	How has/will the socio-economic contribution of the p	project materialised?		
		Improvements in safety			
		X improvements in the environment			
		Improvements in energy consumption/supply			
		Improvements in international relations			
		Other, please specify :			
	c.	How important is this socio-economic contribution?			
		High social contribution			
		X Medium social contribution			
		Low social contribution			
	d.	When has/will this social contribution materialised?			
		Already materialised			
		Within three years of project completion			
		X Expected in three years or more			
		Unknown			
Date :	2	Signature :	1. Ismor		
			· · ·		

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