

## What is the outlook for applications of carbon nanotubes in coatings and related fields?

Carbon nanotubes (CNT) are currently produced on too small a scale to hold forth any commercial interest in coatings. However technologically it is important to understand their potential in imparting novel attributes to coatings and related materials.

- Incorporation of small levels of CNTs in plastics makes them conductive, which in turn facilitates painting by electrostatic application obviating the need for conductive primers
  - Dimensional stability of plastics: CNT incorporated plastics have higher heat distortion temperature. The coatings applied on such plastics can be baked at higher temperature thereby simplifying the chemistry and reducing the cost and hazard associated with isocyanate materials.
  - CNT reinforced plastics will see greater use as materials of construction for automobiles and other articles replacing steel which rusts.
  - Thermoplastic air drying coatings can be formulated with properties comparable to thermosetting coatings.
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