

Thermoplastic vulcanizates from recycled polyolefins, EPDM and reclaimed ground tire rubber

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Abstract

The new technology of producing of thermoplastic vulcanizates (TPV) based on recycled polyolefin, PO^R (HDPE^R, LDPE^R, PP^R) and reclaimed ground tire rubber (GTR^R) has been developed. The new thermal-mechanical-chemical method of GTR reclamation consisting of GTR pre-heating with active unsaturated agent at 170°C followed by the rolling was used. The TPV samples were obtained by mixing of PO^R and reclaimed GTR^R in the presence of EPDM in Brabender type mixer or extruder. Using of non-reclaimed GTR in TPV formulations leads to a drastic reduction in mechanical characteristics of the resulting product. Contrarily, introduction of reclaimed GTR^R has allowed us to keep the mechanical properties of final TPV on the level of basic (for example HDPE^R/EPDM) TPV. The new TPV has additionally demonstrated high thermal stability, high chemical resistance, and high stability to multi-reprocessing and to hot ageing. Having the basic characteristics on the level of well-known SANTOPRENE the new product is twice cheaper.