

Press and Public Relations: Jocelyne Rouis Tel + 33 (0)4 76 82 69 44 - Fax: +33 (0)4 76 82 69 33

presse.pagora@grenoble-inp.fr

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Drafted by: A.Pandolfi / Sent by: N.Vieira

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Industrial applications of functional nanocelluloses



November 16, 2017, Charlene Reverdy defended her doctoral thesis at University Grenoble Alpes prepared under the supervision Julien Bras, Associate Professor, and Naceur Belgacem, Professor (Grenoble INP-Pagora / LGP2). She presented the results of her

research work entitled Industrial applications of functional nanocelluloses.

The aim of this work is to implement new properties to a paper based material via the use of functional nanocelluloses.

Nanocelluloses are nanoparticles extracted from wood and distinguished in two categories: Cellulose Nanofibrils (CNF) and Cellulose Nanocrystals (CNC).

This work has only been carried out with CNF. The chemical reactivity of CNF was used to functionalize them with organotrialkoxysilanes. The entangled network and highly viscous suspension of CNFs was also used to synthesize silsesquioxane particles with limited size to impart (super)hydrophobic and antimicrobial properties.

Knowledge obtained through the study of model CNF films was then applied to paper based material coating. The functional CNF were evaluated for its use in an antimicrobial, anti-adherent, greaseproof or superhydrophobic paper surface.

Contacts: Julien.Bras@pagora.grenoble-inp.fr - Naceur.Belgacem@pagora.grenoble-inp.fr Logo: logo-lgp2.eps

The Laboratory of Pulp and Paper Science and Graphic Arts (LGP2) is a joint research unit (UMR 5518) run by the CNRS, Grenoble INP and the Agefpi. It is home to three teams: Biorefinery: chemistry and eco-processes – Multiscale biobased materials – Surface functionalization through printing processes. The research conducted by LGP2 strives to meet society's expectations when it comes to sustainable development (green chemistry, clean processes, recycling, biobased materials, renewable energy) and traceability & safety (functional materials, smart paper and packaging). http://pagora.grenoble-inp.fr/research/

Grenoble INP-Pagora, the international school of paper, print media and biomaterials is one of six engineering schools of Grenoble Institute of Technology (Grenoble INP). The school is Quality, Safety & Environment certified and committed to sustainable development. It trains socially-responsible engineers for the sectors of green chemistry, paper, printing, packaging, biomaterials and printed electronics. It also offers two vocational degrees (*Digital workflows, publishing & print production* and *European industrial printed communication engineering*). Its wide range of courses and pedagogical expertise – at engineering and vocational degree levels – allow it to constantly tailor its training to industry's needs. Strong partnerships with companies allow the 60 graduates it produces each year to embark upon stimulating careers in France and abroad. The school also provides international training in conjunction with several European universities, as well as offering a course in English: the Post Master *Biorefinery: bioenergy, bioproducts & biomaterials*. The innovative research performed by its LGP2 laboratory helps to improve processes and create products that meet all the latest requirements, notably those linked to the environment. The Cerig's role is to keep an active eye on technological developments in these industries. These various activities ensure that the training offered is up to date with the latest scientific and technological advances. *http://pagora.grenoble-inp.fr - http://cerig.pagora.grenoble-inp.fr - http://www.facebook.com/GrenobleINP.Pagora*