## PROPERTIES OF COMPOSITE PAHEL MANUFACTURED FROM COMBINATION OF FIBERGLASS WITH OIL PALM FROM FIBERS

# MOHD NASARUDDIN BIN NIK MOHD SUDIN





#### ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

First of all, I would like to take this precious opportunity to express my special thank to The Almighty God, Allah S.W.T for His blessing and strength rendered to me upon completion of this final semester project entitled **'Properties of Composite Panel Manufactured from Combination of Fiberglass with Oil Palm Fruit Fibers"**.

I would also like to express my very special appreciation and thanks to my project advisor, **Prof. Dr. Suhaimi bin Muhammed**, who is always gives me guideline and a lot of information until this final project report is complete. I would also like to thank his whole family who has stand behind my back and for their support and encouragement.

Thousands of thanks to the Project Coordinator, Associate Professor **Dr. Jamaludin bin Kasim** on his constructive comment and suggestion and also **Pn. Sa'diah binti Sahat** because giving a helping in doing the SPSS. I also wish to express my gratitude to **Norhaida Yahya, Zuraida Abdullah** and **Nurul Hidayah** with all of his kindness in helping and guiding me to accomplish the composite panel during the experiments.

Last but no least, not forgotten, thank you so much also to the lovely friends and family for their supports and encouragement in my studies and all informally finishing this final project report. And to whom which were involve either direct or indirectly in helping us to finish our project and final report.

### **TABLE OF CONTENTS**

TITTLE	PAGE
PROJECT TITLE	i
APPROVAL SHEET	ii
DEDICATION	iii
ACKNOWLEDGEMENT	iv
LIST OF PLATES	viii
LIST OF TABLES	ix
LIST OF FIGURES	x
LIST OF ABBREVATIONS	xi
ABSTRACT	xii
ABSTRAK	xiii

## CHAPTER

1.0	INTRODUCTION	1
		2

2.0 LITERATURE REVIEW	3
2.1 Composite Materials	3
2.1.1 Types of composite materials	3
2.1.2 Earliest example of composite materials	4
2.1.3 Modern composite materials	4
2.1.4 Mechanics of composite materials	5
2.2 Oil palm	7
2.3 Fiberglass	9
2.3.1 Formation	10
2.3.2 Chemistry	11
2.3.3 Properties	13

3.0 MATERIAL AND METHOD. 1	4
3.1 Material preparation1	4
3.1.1 Flow chart for material preparation	5
3.2 Material for the production of the composite	6
3.2.1 Raw fiberglass1	6
3.2.2 Oil palm fruit fibers 1	7
3.2.3 Mold release wax 1	8
3.2.4 Acrylic resin	9
3.2.5 Organic peroxide 2	0
3.3 Method for the manufacturing of product panel2	1
3.4 Testing method	8
3.4.1 Bending test	8
3.4.2 Tensile test	9
3.4.3 Water absorption and thickness swelling test	0
4.0 RESULTS AND DISCUSSIONS	1
4.1 Mechanical and physical properties of two types of fibers 3	1
4.2 Statistical significance	2
4.3 Mechanical properties	3
4.3.1 Bending modulus flexural	3
4.3.2 Modulus of Elasticity	5
4.4 Physical properties	7
4.4.1 Water absorption	7
4.4.2 Thickness swelling	9

#### ABSTRACT

## PROPERTIES OF COMPOSITE PANEL MANUFACTURED FROM COMBINATION OF FIBERGLASS WITH OIL PALM FRUIT FIBERS

By:

### MOHD NASARUDDIN BIN NIK MOHD SUDIN

#### **APRIL 2007**

Composite panel was produced from the combination fiberglass with oil palm fruit fibers. Such panel was investigated for the effect of fibers types such selected fibers and unselected fibers on the mechanical properties (tensile MOE and bending flexural) and physical properties (water absorption and thickness swelling). The finding indicated that the composite panel from selected fibers is better than those from unselected fibers in terms of the mechanical properties whereby show the bending flexural and tensile modulus of elasticity are higher for panel from selected fibers compared to that of unselected fibers. However, water absorption and thickness swelling of composite panel from unselected fibers is higher than that of selected fibers but the lower percentage is better because the rate of water absorption is smaller. In conclusion, the oil palm fruit fibers can be regarded on raw material to be used in combination with fiberglass for the manufacture of composite panel.