

## STUDY ON TENSILE AND FLEXURE PERFORMANCE OF HYBRID COMPOSITE

# MOHAMMAD HAFIDZ BIN MAD NORDIN (99181154)

A thesis submitted in partial fulfilment of the requirements for the award of Bachelor Engineering (Hons) (Mechanical)

Faculty of Mechanical Engineering
Universiti Teknologi MARA (UiTM)

**MARCH 2002** 

#### **ACKNOWLEDGEMENT**

A very thankful to ALLAH, that gives me the strength and courage to complete this thesis successfully in order to receive my Bachelor Engineering (Hons) in Mechanical

I would like to express my sincere gratitude and appreciation to my supervisor En. Yakub Md. Taib, En. Abu (material laboratory) and En. Ayub (metallurgy laboratory) for their support, generous guidance, help, patience and encouragement in the duration of the thesis preparation until its completion.

To my partner Abd. Halim Bin Ithnin, Deputy Superintendence Police Tuan Azmi Bin Ibrahim Police Marine PP Project, from Bukit Aman, Police Headquarters, Mr. Kassan Hayon (Project Supervisor), Mr. S. Subramaniam (Production Manager) from the Material Supplier and Mr. Mark Richard from High Modulus, New Zealand. Thanks for all the help and assistance during the progress of this thesis.

A lot of thanks to my parents and family continues encouragement and financial support when needed.

Lastly, to my friends who gave their support and knowledge was very useful to me in doing this final project. Thank you for everything.

Regards,

MOHAMMAD HAFIDZ BIN MAD NORDIN

#### **ABSTRACT**

The purpose of this project is to determine the tensile and flexure characteristics of five types fibre reinforced polymer composites. There are (a) Kevlar/E-glass Woven Cloth Mat (KECM390/200), (b) E-glass Chop Strand Mat (CSM300), (c) E-glass Chop Strand Mat (CSM400), (d) E-glass Woven Roving, (e) PVC Airex Linear Foam Core (R63.150SC-12). These materials are used in Marine industry for their good, low density, high strength and ease of maintenance.

The samples are prepared by hand layout technique and the samples were then machined for the tensile and flexure tests. Microstructures were also made to determine the predominant failure mechanism using an image analyser.

From this project, the basic mechanical properties and failure mechanism of the material have been understood and these findings are useful for the manufacturer of the products.

### TABLE OF CONTENTS

	CONTENTS	AGE
	PAGE TITLE	•
	ACKNOWLEDGEMENT	ii
	ABSTRACT	iii
	TABLE OF CONTENTS	iv
	LIST OF TABLES	vii
	LIST OF FIGURES	viii
	LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS	Х
CHAPTER I	INTRODUCTION	
	1.1 HYBRID COMPOSITE	1
	1.1.1 Small diameter with respect to its grain size	2
	1.1.2 High aspect ratio	3
	1.1.3 A very high degree of flexibility	3
	1.2 HISTORY OF COMPOSITE MATERIALS	3
CHAPTER II	THE MATERIALS	
	2.1 TYPE OF FIBRE	5
	2.1.1 Glass-Fibre	5
	2.1.2 Woven Roving	6
	2.1.3 Aramid Fibre – Kevlar	6
	2.1.4 PVC Foams	7
	2.1.5 Catalyst iv	7

	CONTENTS	PAGE
	2.1.6 Reinforcement Materials	8
	2.1.7 Epoxy Resin	9
	2.2 FAILURE MECHANISM OF FRP COMPOSITE	10
	2.2.1 Fibre Pull-Out	10
	2.2.2 Interlaminar	11
	2.2.3 Fibre Fracture	12
	2.2.4 Matrix Fracture	13
CHAPTER III	EXPERIMENTAL PROCEDURES	
	3.1 SPECIMEN PREPARATION	14
	3.1 1 Basic Equipments	14
	3.1.2 Sample Preparation Procedure	15
	3.1.3 Type of Sample	16
	3.1.3.1 Specimen 1	16
	3.1.3.2 Specimen 2	16
	3.1.3.3 Specimen 3	16
	3.1.3.4 Specimen 4	16
	3.2 SPECIMEN PREPARATION	17
	3.3 FIBRE WEIGHT FRACTION	18
	3.3.1 Objective of Weight Fraction	18
	3.3.2 Equipments Used	18
	3.3.3 Test Procedures	18
	3.3.4 Calculate the weight fraction	19
	3.4 TENSILE TEST	19
	3.4.1 Objective of Tensile Test	19
	3.4.2 Equipments Used	19
	3.4.3 Test Procedures	20
	3.4.4 Calculation	21
	3.5 BENDING TEST	21
	3.5.1 Objective of Bending Test	21
	3.5.2 Equipments Used v	21