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BASF, Vorbeck to cooperate on graphene development for composites

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BASF (Florham Park, N.J.) and Vorbeck Materials Corp. (Jessup, Md.) have established a joint research program to develop graphene-based formulations and composite materials. As part of the collaboration, Vorbeck and BASF are developing dispersions of highly conductive graphene for producing electrically conductive coating and compounds, especially for the electronics industry. The newly established joint research program will lead to commercial applications in the near future.

"We are pleased with the quality and performance of Vorbeck's graphene material," said Dr. Norbert Wagner, Performance Chemicals Research at BASF. "This joint research effort," Wagner continued, "will accelerate BASF's product development through close collaboration between our companies' research teams."

Before now, the manufacture of single-sheet graphene on a ton scale has not been commercially feasible. In response to this industry need, Vorbeck has licensed core technology from Princeton University to develop a unique, scalable process for manufacturing graphene in ton quantities and is poised to break some barriers previously encountered with classical graphitic materials. With excellent conductivity, surface areas of more than 1,800 sq-m/g, good dispersability and stability, and sinter-free performance, Vor-x reportedly has been able to differentiate itself from traditional and nano fillers.

"We are excited to be working with such a driven, innovative team at BASF," says co-founder and President, Dr. John Lettow. "Vorbeck's research team combines diverse industry experience with small company speed to accelerate our partners' application development capabilities."

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