

1.2 Summary

In addition to the fundamental studies aimed at understanding chemistry and physics of conducting polymers, materials are just becoming available for evaluation in terms of commercial application. It appears that adding high electrical conductivity to the host of advantageous properties polymers have become associated with would lead one to expect many commercial applications in the future. This may come to pass, however, at the present time merging of the electrical properties of conducting polymers with the expected mechanical/fabrication properties of polymers has required a compromise in expectations. Some samples are becoming available for study and the Study Group has reviewed a variety of areas where applications of these materials might find a home in the future. The Study Group strongly suspects that conducting composites/blends might lead to a variety of important opportunities for conducting polymer.