

## Supplementary Materials

# Grafting of Hindered Phenol Groups onto Ethylene/ $\alpha$ -Olefin Copolymer by Nitroxide Radical Coupling

Serena Coiai <sup>1</sup>, Francesca Cicogna <sup>1,\*</sup>, Chengcheng Yang <sup>1</sup>, Veronika Tempesti <sup>1</sup>, Sabrina Carola Carroccio <sup>2,3</sup>, Giuliana Gorrasi <sup>4</sup>, Raniero Mendichi <sup>5</sup>, Nadka Tz. Dintcheva <sup>6</sup> and Elisa Passaglia <sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Istituto di Chimica dei Composti Organo Metallici (ICCOM), Consiglio Nazionale delle Ricerche, SS Pisa, Via G. Moruzzi 1, 56124 Pisa, Italy; [serea.coiai@pi.iccom.cnr.it](mailto:serea.coiai@pi.iccom.cnr.it) (S.C.); [francesca.cicogna@pi.iccom.cnr.it](mailto:francesca.cicogna@pi.iccom.cnr.it) (F.C.); [chengchengyoung@gmail.com](mailto:chengchengyoung@gmail.com) (C.Y.); [v.tempesti@outlook.it](mailto:v.tempesti@outlook.it) (V.T.); [passaglia@pi.iccom.cnr.it](mailto:passaglia@pi.iccom.cnr.it) (E.P.)

<sup>2</sup> Istituto per i Polimeri, Compositi e Biomateriali (IPCB), Consiglio Nazionale delle Ricerche, SS Catania, Via P. Gaifami 18, 95126 Catania, Italy; [sabrinacarola.carroccio@cnr.it](mailto:sabrinacarola.carroccio@cnr.it)

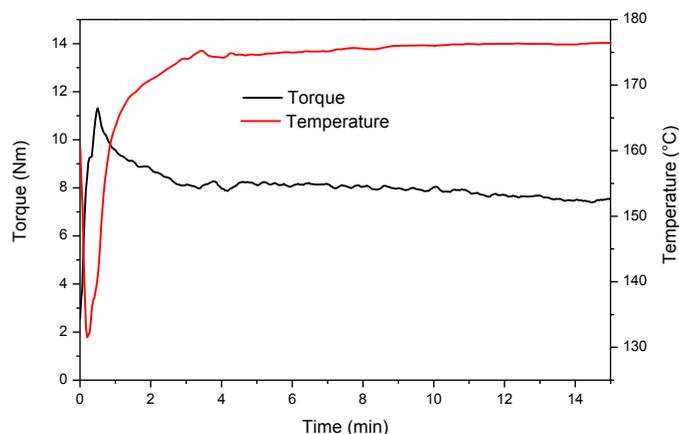
<sup>3</sup> Istituto per la microelettronica e microsistemi (IMM), Consiglio Nazionale delle Ricerche, SS Catania (Università), Via S. Sofia 64, 95123 Catania, Italy

<sup>4</sup> Dipartimento di Ingegneria Industriale, Università degli studi di Salerno, Via Giovanni Paolo II, 132, 84084 Fisciano (SA), Italy; [ggorrasi@unisa.it](mailto:ggorrasi@unisa.it)

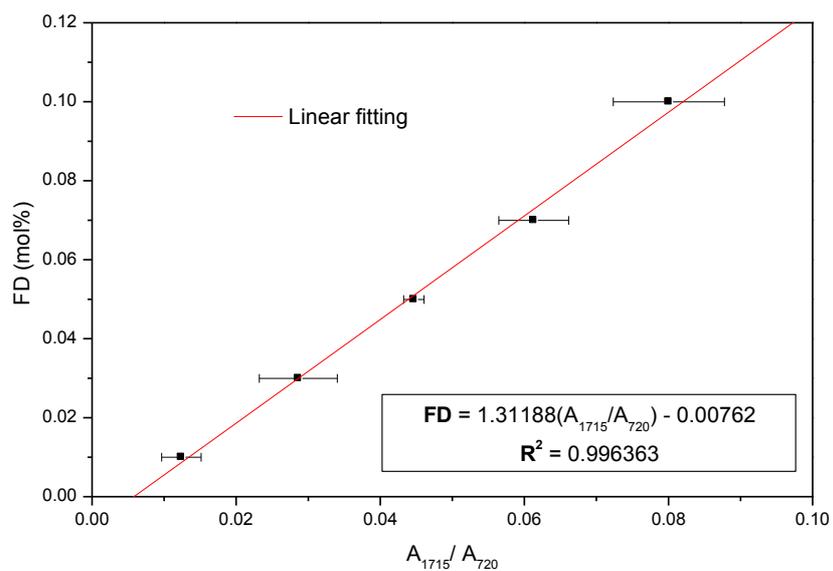
<sup>5</sup> Istituto per lo studio delle macromolecole (ISMAC), Consiglio Nazionale delle Ricerche, Via A. Corti 12, 20133 Milano, Italy; [mendichi@ismac.cnr.it](mailto:mendichi@ismac.cnr.it)

<sup>6</sup> Dipartimento di Ingegneria Civile, Ambientale, Aerospaziale, dei Materiali, Università di Palermo, Viale delle Scienze, Ed. 6, 90128 Palermo, Italy; [nadka.dintcheva@unipa.it](mailto:nadka.dintcheva@unipa.it)

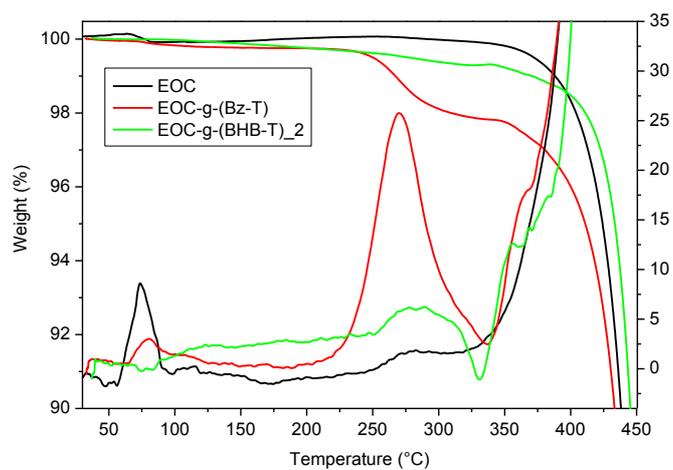
\* Correspondence: [francesca.cicogna@pi.iccom.cnr.it](mailto:francesca.cicogna@pi.iccom.cnr.it); Tel.: +39-050-3152-3393



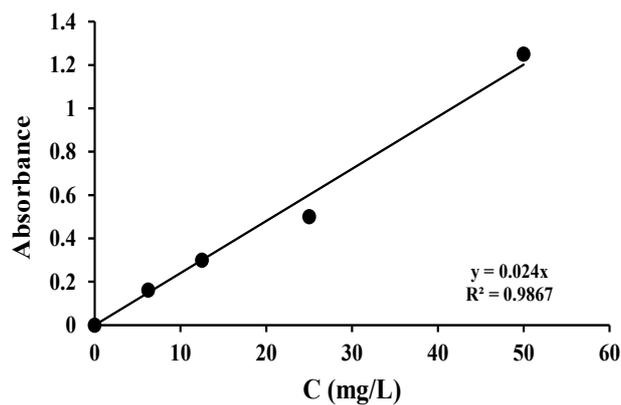
**Figure S1.** Torque curve and temperature profile recorded during the functionalization of EOC with BHB-T.



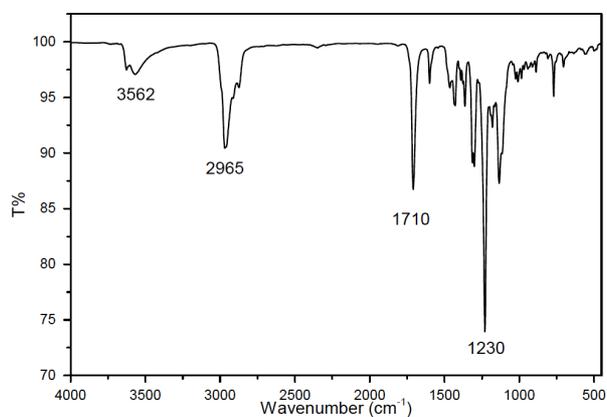
**Figure S2.** Calibration curve for the determination of the FD of EOC-g-(BHB-T) samples.



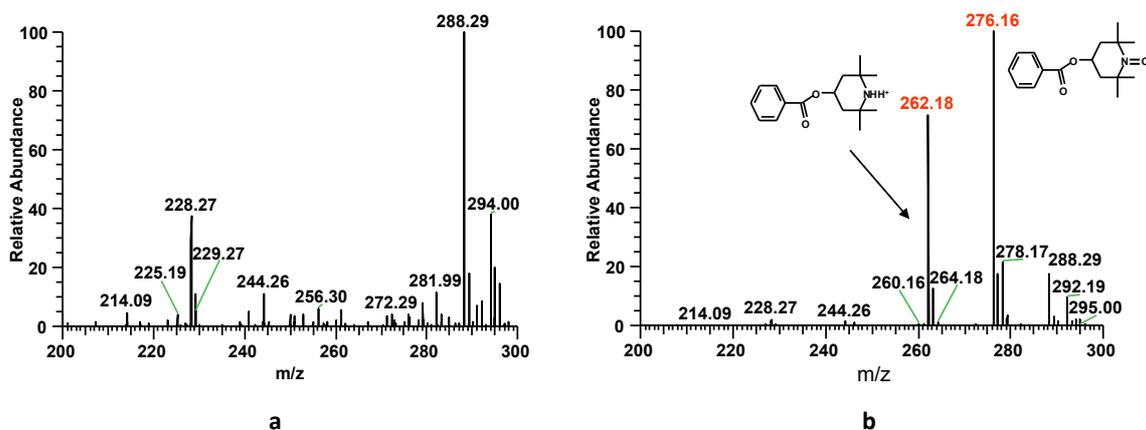
**Figure S3.** TGA thermograms and their first derivative of EOC-g-(Bz-T) and EOC-g-(BHB-T)\_2.



**Figure S4.** Calibration curve for the determination of the amount of CY and BHB-T released from EOC/CY2 and EOC-g-(BHB-T)\_2 during migration tests.



**Figure S5.** FT-IR spectrum of 3,5-di-tert-butyl-4-hydroxybenzoyl-2,2,6,6-tetramethylpiperidine-1-oxyl radical (BHB-T)



**Figure S6.** ESI mass spectra registered in positive mode, in the mass range 200-300 m/z, of the products extracted from EOC-g-(Bz-T) virgin sample (a) and photo-oxidized for 6 days (b).

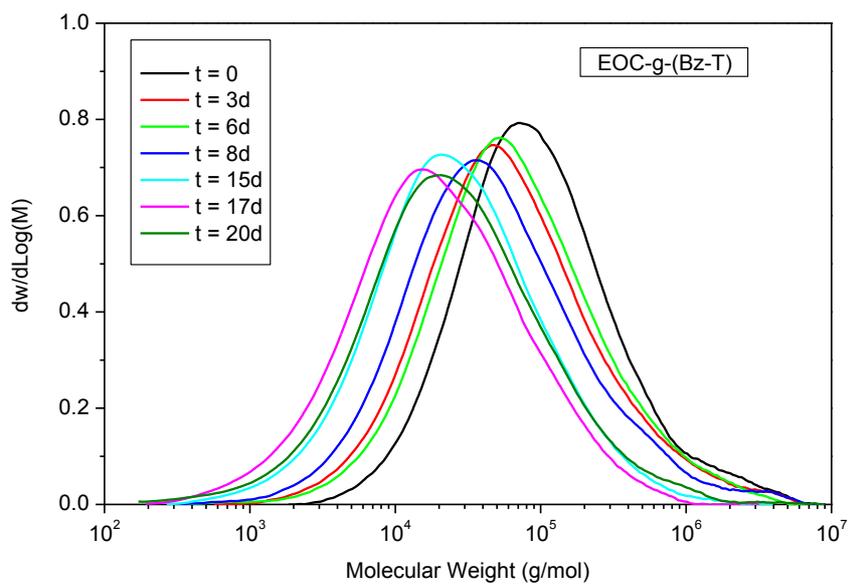


Figure S7. Differential MWD of EOC-g-(Bz-T) before and after different UV irradiation times.

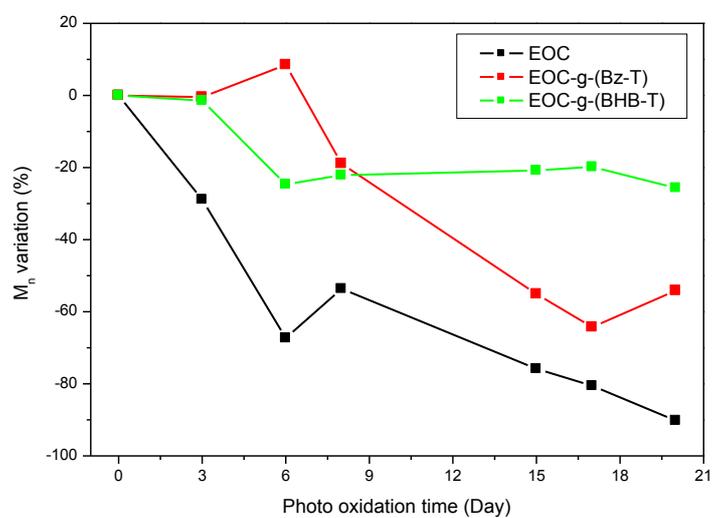
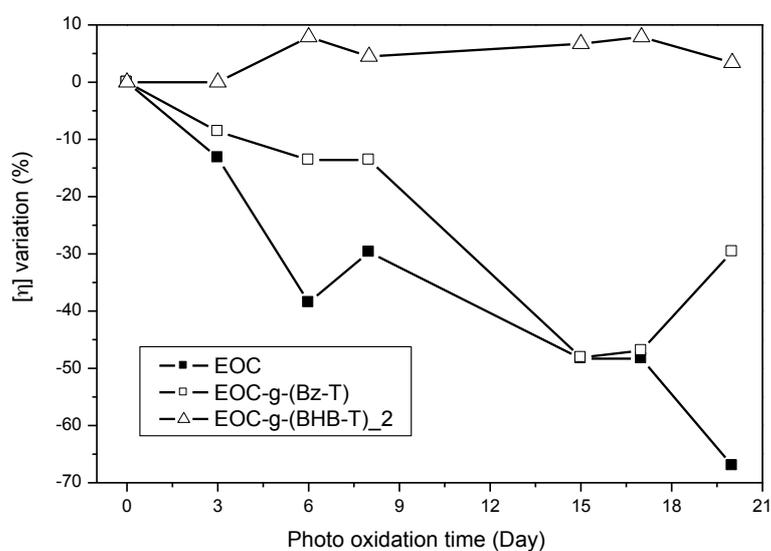


Figure S8.  $M_n$  variation as a function of irradiation time.

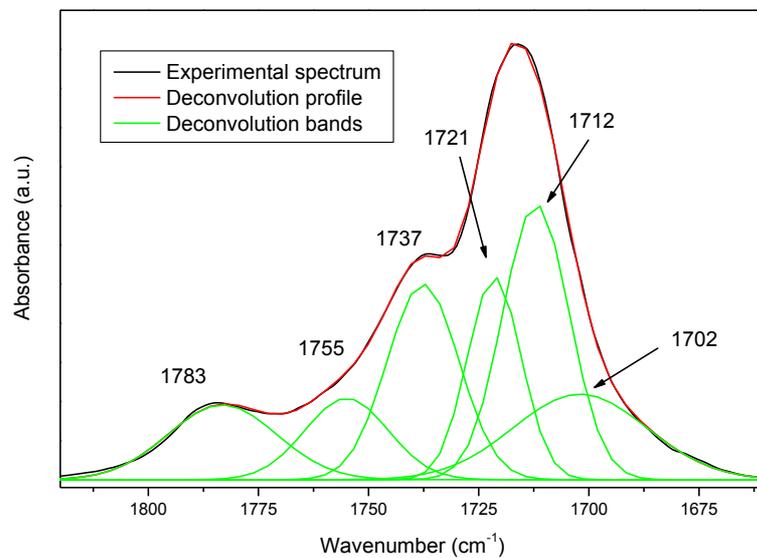
**Table S1.** SEC-DV characterization of EOC, EOC-g-(Bz-T) and EOC-g-(BHB-T)<sub>2</sub> during photo-oxidation

Sample	Irradiation day	M <sub>w</sub> kg/mol	M <sub>n</sub> kg/mol	M <sub>w</sub> /M <sub>n</sub>	[η] dL/g	Mw Var. %	[η] Var. %
EOC_0	0	179.7	86.9	2.1	0.91	0	0
EOC_3	3	167.2	61.8	2.7	0.79	-6.9	-13.2
EOC_6	6	144.4	28.4	5.1	0.56	-19.5	-38.5
EOC_8	8	162.6	40.3	4.0	0.64	-9.6	-29.7
EOC_15	15	118.9	21.0	5.7	0.47	-33.8	-48.3
EOC_17	17	131.6	16.9	7.8	0.47	-26.7	-48.3
EOC_20	20	62.0	8.5	7.3	0.30	-65.5	-67.0
EOC-g-(Bz-T) <sub>0</sub> <sup>1</sup>	0	246.0	43.3	5.7	0.81	0	0
EOC-g-(Bz-T) <sub>3</sub>	3	192.8	43.2	4.5	0.74	-21.6	-8.6
EOC-g-(Bz-T) <sub>6</sub>	6	182.0	47.1	3.9	0.70	-26.0	-13.6
EOC-g-(Bz-T) <sub>8</sub>	8	181.6	35.2	5.2	0.70	-26.2	-13.6
EOC-g-(Bz-T) <sub>15</sub>	15	82.6	19.5	4.2	0.42	-66.4	-48.1
EOC-g-(Bz-T) <sub>17</sub>	17	65.3	15.5	4.2	0.43	-73.4	-46.9
EOC-g-(Bz-T) <sub>20</sub>	20	92.8	19.9	4.7	0.57	-62.3	-29.6
EOC-g-(BHB-T) <sub>2_0</sub>	0	175.9	82.7	2.1	0.89	0	0
EOC-g-(BHB-T) <sub>2_3</sub>	3	199.6	81.5	2.4	0.89	+14.0	0
EOC-g-(BHB-T) <sub>2_6</sub>	6	231.0	62.3	3.7	0.96	+32.0	+7.9
EOC-g-(BHB-T) <sub>2_8</sub>	8	249.6	64.4	3.9	0.93	+42.6	+4.5
EOC-g-(BHB-T) <sub>2_15</sub>	15	310.1	65.5	4.7	0.95	+77.2	+6.7
EOC-g-(BHB-T) <sub>2_17</sub>	17	293.5	66.3	4.4	0.96	+67.7	+7.9
EOC-g-(BHB-T) <sub>2_20</sub>	20	294.7	61.5	4.8	0.92	+68.4	+3.4

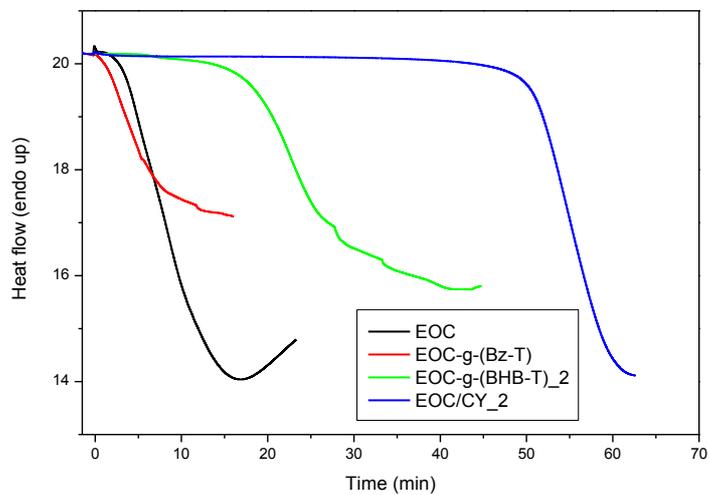
<sup>1</sup> EOC-g-(Bz-T) samples were analyzed by a different SEC column set (See Experimental)



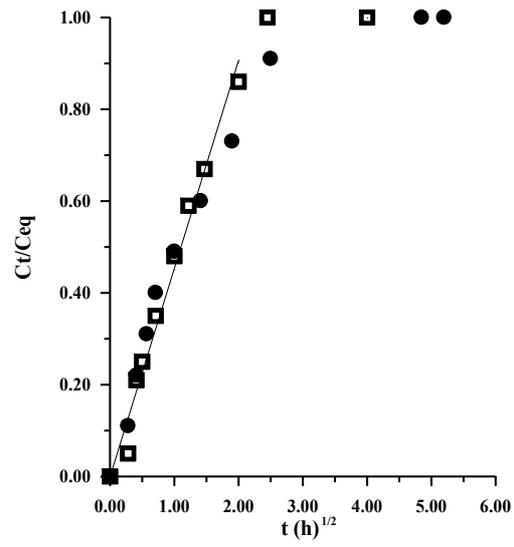
**Figure S9.** Intrinsic viscosity variation as a function of irradiation time.



**Figure S10.** Deconvoluted IR spectrum of EOC thermo-oxidized for 30 days in the absorption region of carbonyl group.



**Figure S11.** Oxidation induction time (OIT) curves of pristine EOC, EOC functionalized with Bz-T and BHB-T and EOC mixed with CY. Acquisition temperature 190°C, oxygen flow 50 ml/min.



**Figure S12.**  $C_t/C_{eq}$  vs. square root of time (h) of EOC in ethanol for samples: (•) EOC-g-(BHB-T)\_2; (□) EOC/CY\_2.