

Special Issue

Recent Advances in Self-Healing Polymers

Message from the Guest Editors

While self-healing is a ubiquitous feature in nature, it is challenging to engineer into synthetic materials. In polymer science, several strategies are used to achieve self-healing: reversible covalent bonds, dynamic physical bonds, incorporation of unreacted monomer/catalyst/solvent combinations in microcapsules and channels. There has already been lots of work on incorporating self-healing strategies in thermoplastics, thermosets and elastomers. The basic challenge remains to ensure sufficient mobility and dynamic behavior in the material while retaining mechanical robustness for the intended application. Topics could involve (but are not limited to) synthesis, property, routes for scale-up and applications of self-healing polymers. Other topics to consider could be use of bio-based monomers/polymers, strategies to overcome manufacturing/scale-up challenges, contributions of physical and chemical aspects of self-healing polymers, and successful applications of these materials. Research related to the inclusion of self-healing concepts into the circular economy principle is also of interest.

Guest Editors

Dr. Ranjita K. Bose

Engineering and Technology institute Groningen (ENTEG), University of Groningen, Nijenborgh 4, 9747AG Groningen, The Netherlands

Dr. Marianella Hernández Santana

Institute of Polymer Science and Technology (ICTP-CSIC), Juan de la Cierva 3, 28006 Madrid, Spain

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Editorial Office
MDPI, Grosspeteranlage 5
4052 Basel, Switzerland
Tel: +41 61 683 77 34
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Since its foundation in 2009, *Polymers* has developed into an internationally renowned, extremely successful open access journal. The editorial team and the editorial board dedicatedly combine open-access publishing and high-quality rigorous peer reviewing. The performance of the journal has proven this strategy to be well-suited and highly successful. This is reflected in the increasing impact factor of *Polymers*, the most recent one being 4.7.

I would like to invite you to contribute to the success of the journal by sending us your high quality research papers. We would be pleased to welcome you as one of our authors.

Editor-in-Chief

Prof. Dr. Alexander Böker

Lehrstuhl für Polymermaterialien und Polymertechnologie, University of Potsdam, 14476 Potsdam-Golm, Germany

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