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Vacuum-

Assisted Self-Assembly of Polymer Derived Siliconoxycarbide-Graphene Composite as Li-ion Battery Anode LAMUEL DAVID, GURPREET SINGH, Kansas State University — Exfoliated graphene oxide (GO) and polysiloxane were blended and pyrolyzed to synthesize freestanding SiOC-graphene composite papers ($\sim 10 \mu\text{m}$ thick). The structural and chemical characterization of the composite prepared with varying ceramic concentrations was carried out using electron microscopy, XRD, XPS and FT-infrared spectroscopy. High resolution microscopy images shows layer by layer stacking of GO sheets and an increase in interlayer spacing was observed by X-ray analysis. FTIR peaks at 3400 cm^{-1} (O-H), 1720 cm^{-1} (C=O), 1600 cm^{-1} (graphene), 3056 cm^{-1} (Si-CH=CH₂) and 1034 cm^{-1} (Si-O-Si) confirmed the successful functionalization of SiOC with GO. Thermo-gravimetric analysis showed enhanced thermodynamic stability of the composite paper up to at least $700 \text{ }^\circ\text{C}$ in flowing air. The SiOC/Graphene composite paper anodes showed stable electrochemical capacity of approx. 500 mAh/g which was twice that of free standing graphene anodes. The average coulombic efficiency (second cycle onwards) was observed to be approx. 97% .

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