



ADVANCED FUNCTIONAL MATERIALS

SMART NANOTUBES

A simple way to develop single-walled carbon nanotube (SWNT) hybrids with 'smart' light-switchable properties is demonstrated by Y. Feng and co-workers. On page 5010, they decorate SWNT surfaces with pyrene-containing cyclodextrins via π - π stacking. After adding azobenzene-modified poly(ethylene oxide), the SWNT hybrids are not only well dispersed in pure water through host-guest interactions, but also exhibit switchable dispersion/aggregation states upon alternating irradiation of UV and visible light.