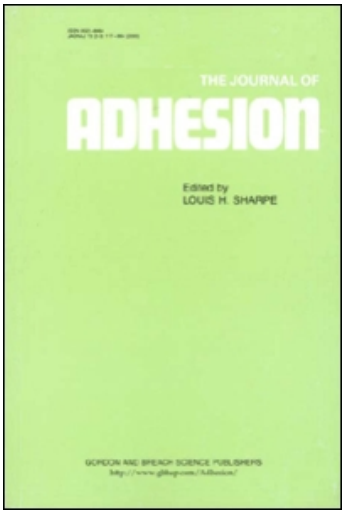

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Adhesion and Engineering Adhesives Group

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Adhesion and Engineering Adhesives Group

A new research and teaching initiative in the area of adhesion and adhesives has recently been established at the Imperial College of Science and Technology, University of London. An "Adhesion and Engineering Adhesives Group" has been formed and is headed by Dr. A. J. Kinloch, who was previously head of the "Adhesives and Mechanical Properties" Section at the Ministry of Defence, Waltham Abbey. Dr. Kinloch is a member of the Advisory Board of THE JOURNAL OF ADHESION.

The "Adhesion and Engineering Adhesives Group" is within the Mechanical Engineering Department at Imperial College and already has several major research programmes under way. These include the development of tough high-temperature epoxy adhesives (in conjunction with Princeton University), a theoretical and experimental investigation of the application of continuum fracture mechanics to interfacial crack growth, the development of instrumented impact testing for selecting and designing with engineering adhesives, and the identification of the mechanics of mechanisms of joint durability. These research programmes are being supported by both Government Departments and Industrial Companies and use many of Imperial College's excellent research facilities for mechanical testing, electron microscopy, surface analysis etc. On the teaching front, aspects of the science of adhesion and adhesives, particularly design aspects, are being introduced into several undergraduate and postgraduate courses. Imperial College has also recently established both a "Composites Centre" and a "Robotics Centre" and the new "Adhesion and Engineering Adhesives Group" will be liaising closely with both these activities.

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