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Test methods for measurement of electrical properties of carbon nanotubes

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CONTENTS

Foreword	iii
IEEE Introduction	vi
1. Overview	1
1.1 Scope	1
1.2 Purpose	1
1.3 Electrical characterization overview	1
2. Definitions, acronyms, and abbreviations	6
2.1 Definitions	6
2.2 Acronyms and abbreviations	7
3. Nanotube properties.....	7
3.1 Single-walled nanotube	8
3.2 Multi-walled nanotube.....	9
4. Electrodes	9
4.1 Materials	9
4.2 Method for electrode fabrication	9
4.3 Dimensions	10
5. Device characterization	10
5.1 Architecture design.....	10
5.2 Method for processing and fabrication	10
5.3 Standard characterization procedures	11
5.4 Environmental control and standards	14
Annex A (informative) Bibliography	15
Annex B (informative) List of Participants.....	16

INTERNATIONAL ELECTROTECHNICAL COMMISSION

**TEST METHODS FOR MEASUREMENT OF ELECTRICAL PROPERTIES
OF CARBON NANOTUBES**

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IEEE Standard Test Methods for Measurement of Electrical Properties of Carbon Nanotubes

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Nanotechnology Council Standards Committee
of the
IEEE Nanotechnology Council

Approved 8 December 2005

IEEE-SA Standards Board

Abstract: Recommended methods and standardized reporting practices for electrical characterization of carbon nanotubes (CNTs) are covered. Due to the nature of CNTs, significant measurement errors can be introduced if the electrical characterization design-of-experiment is not properly addressed. The most common sources of measurement error, particularly for high-impedance electrical measurements commonly required for CNTs, are described. Recommended practices in order to minimize and/or characterize the effect of measurement artifacts and other sources of error encountered while measuring CNTs are given.

Keywords: carbon nanotube, electrical characterization, high-impedance measurement, nanotechnology

IEEE Introduction

This standard covers recommended methods and standardized reporting practices for electrical characterization of carbon nanotubes (CNTs). Due to the nature of CNTs, significant measurement errors can be introduced if not properly addressed. This standard describes the most common sources of measurement error, and gives recommended practices in order to minimize and/or characterize the effect of each error.

Standard reporting practices are included in order to minimize confusion in analyzing reported data. Disclosure of environmental conditions and sample size are included so that results can be appropriately assessed by the research community. These reporting practices also support repeatability of results, so that new discoveries may be confirmed more efficiently. The practices in this standard were compiled from scientists and engineers from the CNT field. These practices were based on standard operating procedures utilized in facilities worldwide. This standard was initiated in 2003 to assist in the diffusion of CNT technology from the laboratory into the marketplace. Standardized characterization methods and reporting practices creates a means of effective comparison of information and a foundation for manufacturing readiness.

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TEST METHODS FOR MEASUREMENT OF ELECTRICAL PROPERTIES OF CARBON NANOTUBES

1. Overview

1.1 Scope

This standard provides methods for the electrical characterization of carbon nanotubes (CNTs). The methods will be independent of processing routes used to fabricate the CNTs.