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FOUNDER SPOTLIGHT

ILHAN AKSAY

Co-Founder, Vorbeck Materials Corporation /
Professor of Chemical Engineering,
Princeton University



"Federal funding provides vital support to researchers, driven by intellectual curiosity, who have a desire to create new knowledge and use it to solve critical problems. By enabling scientists and engineers to realize their visions, this support helps to fuel the innovation process in the United States, often leading to the development of applications and companies that benefit societal well-being and the economy."

FAST FACTS

FOUNDER(S):

Ilhan Aksay
John Lettow
Robert Prud'homme

INNOVATION(S):

Industrial Technologies
Nanotechnology
Space Systems/Space Technologies

HEADQUARTERS:

Jessup, MD

FOUNDED:

2006

TSC MEMBER INSTITUTION(S):

Princeton University

FUNDING AGENCY(S):

National Aeronautics and Space Administration
National Science Foundation

STATUS:

Private

VORBECK MATERIALS CORPORATION

CUSTOM MATERIALS FOR THE INDUSTRY'S TOUGHEST CHALLENGES

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ABOUT THE COMPANY:

Vorbeck Materials is a privately held specialty materials company established to manufacture and develop applications around Vor-x™, a novel graphene (carbon) nanomaterial developed by Professors Ilhan Aksay and Robert Prud'homme in the Princeton University Department of Chemical Engineering.

Described as the "strongest, most conductive material known," graphene is an emerging force in high performance materials.

Until now, the manufacture of single-sheet graphene on a ton scale has not been commercially feasible. In response to this industry need, Vorbeck has licensed core technology from Princeton University to develop a unique, scalable process for manufacturing graphene in ton quantities.

NASA has used functionalized graphene sheets from Vorbeck Materials — describing the company as "the only known source, based on their exclusive license from Princeton University, able to use proprietary processes to manufacture functionalized graphene materials."

Recently, BASF and Vorbeck Materials Corporation established a joint research program to develop graphene-based formulations and composite materials. As part of the collaboration, Vorbeck and BASF are developing dispersions of highly conductive graphene for producing electrically conductive coating and compounds for the electronics industry.

UNIVERSITY-BASED RESEARCH CONNECTION:

Vorbeck Materials Corporation is based on technologies developed in the Princeton University Department of Chemical Engineering.

ROLE OF FEDERAL RESEARCH FUNDING:

The research to develop the technologies behind Vorbeck was supported in part through federal funding from NASA and the National Science Foundation.



VORBECK MATERIALS CORPORATION
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(See excerpts on following pages)

FOUNDER(S): Ilhan Aksay, John Lettow and Robert Prud'homme

EMPLOYEES: N/A

HEADQUARTERS: Jessup, MD

FOUNDED: 2006

REVENUE: N/A

TSC MEMBER INSTITUTION: Princeton University

FUNDING AGENCY(S): NASA, National Science Foundation

Vorbeck Materials Corporation

Custom materials for the industry's toughest challenges

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8306 Patuxent Range Road, Unit 112
Jessup, MD 20794
www.vorbeck.com

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