

Grafoid: Collaboration Is the Key to Graphene's Commercialization

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Bilateral co-operation in the low carbon economy offers opportunities for graphene producers. In the coming years, strong bilateral relationships for the commercialization of graphene will flourish. These relationships will bring together mine-to-market industry players to propel application developments that meet market demand.

The natural flake graphite market has changed dramatically in the last five years from a dig-and-sell commodity business to a value-added product business driven by national and international factors. The industry is being shaped by two catalysts - climate change and the graphene revolution.

Globally, national governments are committing to stringent emission targets and are implementing policies that foster innovation and propel new material advancements. Traditional mining industries, weakened by the global commodity downturn, are searching for ways to revive their businesses, while new material enterprises, such as value-added graphite and graphene start-ups seek to leverage these game-changing opportunities.

The introduction of legislation to greenhouse gas emissions is dramatically changing the critical material sectors. As more and more countries ratify the Paris Accord, the faster industry will adopt change.

China's 13th Five Year Plan calls for China to become an innovation power, pushing the boundaries of the technological frontier and moving up the value-added chain in diverse industrial sectors. Six Strategic Emerging Industries are intended to rebalance the economy toward more advanced technologies, and three of those have near-and-medium term implications for graphene's advancement and commercialization - they are: energy storage and distribution, advanced materials and new-energy vehicles.

Grafoid is poised to take advantage of change. As a graphene research, development and investment company, it has positioned itself to expand its base of collaborative commercial alliances for diverse application development. Grafoid's investment in a patented one-step production process has led to an affordable suite of graphene products that are applied to application developments with joint venture partners at Grafoid's Global Technology Centre (GGTC), in Kingston, Ontario, Canada. Further, it has partnered with the Canadian Government to build the world's first automated mass production graphene line. As a founding member of the 2GL Platform (www.2GLPlatform.com) and the GO Foundation, Grafoid integrates mining, science, engineering, application development, manufacturing and marketing into its operations.

No one company can do it alone. Commercialization of graphene will succeed when our industry works together in collaboration, fitting all the necessary pieces together with financial resources, industries' needs, capabilities and ideas. This requires cooperation, education and outreach on our part.