## Characterizing Rubber's Resistance Against Chip and Cut Behavior

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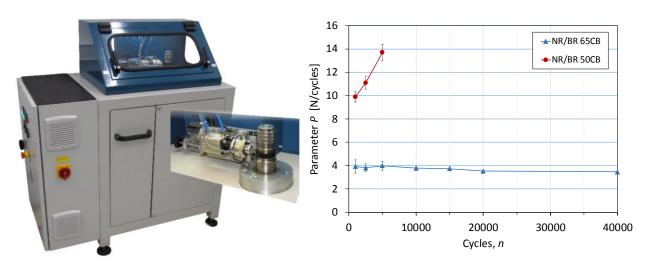
ABSTRACT. Tires in service - especially in rough terrain - show a behavior which is well known as the cut and chip (CC) effect. This work describes unique analytical methods to characterize the fracture in rubber occurring during lab-simulated operation of the tire tread in rough terrain. The new test device controls and records multiple applied loads and displacements during cyclic impact to the surface of a solid rubber wheel to mimic and quantify the cut and chip damage experienced by tire tread compounds on off-road and poor road conditions. To demonstrate the testing capabilities, characterization results are examined for carbon black filled rubber compounds suitable for tire tread applications. The instrument provides a reliable method for evaluating the resistance of rubber against CC damage, and it can also be used in full contact mode for measurement of friction and wear.

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List of Parameters for the Instrumented Chip & Cut Analyser (ICCA)

Parameter	Range	Unit	Parameter Type			
			Defined	Measured	Controlled	Calculated
Rotation speed, ω	100 to 1500	rpm	V	V	V	
Impact frequency, f	0 to 10	Hz	V	V	V	
Number of impact cycles, n	0 to undefined	-	V	V	V	
Time of sliding, t <sub>s</sub>	20 to permanent	ms	V	V	V	
Normal force, F <sub>n</sub>	0 to 500	N	V	V	V	
Friction force, F <sub>f</sub>	0 to 900	N		V		
Resulting force, F <sub>c</sub>	calculated	N				V
Depth of indentation, a <sub>i</sub>	0 to 20	mm		V		
Friction distance, a <sub>f</sub>	measured	mm		V		
Normal energy, E <sub>n</sub>	calculated	J				√
Friction energy, E <sub>f</sub>	calculated	J				V
Friction coefficient, $c_f$	calculated	-				V
Chip & cut propensity, P	calculated	N/cycle				√



LEFT: Photograph of Instrumented Chip & Cut Analyser (ICCA), showing expanded view of impacting device and sample. RIGHT: Plot of chip & cut propensity (*P*) versus number of impact cycles for NR/BR(75/25) compounds reinforced with 50 phr and 65 phr of N339 carbon black.