

LIST OF TABLES

- Table (1.1)*** Forms of corrosion.
- Table (1.2)*** EPDM application fields.
- Table (3.1)*** Composition of carbon steel alloy.
- Table (3.2)*** Specifications of EPDM.
- Table (3.3)*** EPDM resistance to chemical agents.
- Table (3.4)*** Some parameters of low-density polyethylene (LDPE).
- Table (3.5)*** Technical data of Parlock.
- Table (3.6)*** Constituents of seawater given by ICP technique.
- Table (3.7)*** Compositions of the working polymer blends.
- Table (4.1)*** Data obtained from Tafel plot of carbon steel in seawater .
- Table (4.2)*** The values of Q_m and τ for EPDM / PE blends with different thickness.
- Table (4.3)*** Potentiodynamic polarization data of bare and coated carbon steel (24 months of ageing).

LIST OF FIGURES

- **Fig. (3.1)** Hydraulic press used for vulcanization of EPDM/PE blends .
- **Fig. (3.2)** The electrolytic cell used for electrochemical measurements .
- **Fig. (3.3)** The cell used for the measurement of the electrical conductivity.
- **Fig. (3.4)** The circuit used for the measurement of the electrical conductivity
- **Fig. (4.1)** Open circuit potential of carbon steel in sea water at room temperature.
- **Fig. (4.2)** Open circuit potential of carbon steel as a function of immersion time.
- **Fig. (4.3)** Potentiodynamic polarization diagram for carbon steel in sea water
- **Fig. (4.4)** Corrosion potential (E_{corr}) of carbon steel as a function of immersion time.
- **Fig. (4.5)** Corrosion current density of carbon steel as a function of immersion time.
- **Fig. (4.6)** Corrosion rate of carbon steel as a function of immersion time .

- **Fig. (4.7-a)** Potential current curve for carbon steel alloy in seawater .
- **Fig. (4.7-b)** Pitting potential (E_{pit}) of carbon steel as a function of immersion time .
- **Fig. (4.8)** Polarization resistance of carbon steel as a function of immersion time .
- **Fig. (4.9)** Weight loss of carbon steel as a function of immersion time .
- **Fig. (4.10, a – e)** X – ray diffraction patterns of carbon steel at different intervals of immersion time.
- **Fig. (4.11)** SEM micrographs of carbon steel surfaces (after the removal of corrosion products) at different intervals of immersion time.
- **Fig. (4.12)** Dependence of the degree of swelling (Q %) on ageing time for EPDM / PE blends.
- **Fig. (4.13 – 4.15)** Variations of swelling degree (Q %) of EPDM / PE blends (with different blend ratios) in sea water at different temperatures.
- **Fig. (4.16)** Weight of absorbed water versus square root of time for EPDM / PE blends, with different thicknesses.
- **Fig. (4.17)** Dependence of penetration rate on PE content of EPDM / PE blends.

- **Fig. (4.18)** Dependence of average diffusion coefficient on PE content of EPDM / PE blends.
- **Fig.(4.19)** Stress – strain curves for EPDM / PE blends at 30°C.
- **Fig. (4.20)** Tensile strength of EPDM / PE blends as a function of PE weight fraction.
- **Fig. (4.21)** Variations of elongation at break of EPDM / PE blends with PE weight fraction.
- **Fig. (4.22)** Modulus of Elasticity for EPDM / PE blends as a function of PE weight fraction.
- **Fig. (4.23)** Variations of toughness for EPDM / PE blends as a function of PE weight fraction.
- **Fig. (4.24)** Permanent set of EPDM / PE blends as a function of PE weight fraction.
- **Fig. (4.25)** Temperature dependence of electrical conductivity of EPDM / PE blends.
- **Fig. (4.26)** Electrical conductivity of EPDM / PE blends as a function of PE weight fraction.
- **Fig. (4.27)** SEM micrographs of EPDM / PE blends with different blend ratios.
- **Fig. (4.28 – 4.32)** FTIR spectra of EPDM / PE blends, with different blend ratios.

- **Fig. (4.33)** Calibration curve showing 2850 / 2915 absorbance ratio vs. EPDM content.
- **Fig. (4.34)** Calibration curve showing peak intensity of 750 cm band as a function of PE weight fraction.
- **Fig. (4.35)** Open circuit potential of (a) bare carbon steel, (b) coated carbon steel (without applying adhesive), (c) coated carbon steel (with applying adhesive).
- **Fig. (4.36)** Potentiodynamic polarization diagram for carbon steel in sea water (a) coated sample, (b) uncoated sample.
- **Fig.(4.37 – 4.39)** Variations of corrosion current density of EPDM / PE coatings without applying adhesive (1.2. and 3 thickness) as a function of immersion time.
- **Fig. (4.40 – 4.42)** Variations of corrosion current density of EPDM / PE coatings, with applying adhesive (1, 2, and 3 mm thickness) as a function of immersion time.
- **Fig. (4.43)** Dependence of corrosion current density on EPDM / PE blend ratio (without applying adhesive).
- **Fig. (4.44)** Dependence of corrosion current density on EPDM / PE blend ratio (with applying adhesive).
- **Fig. (4.45)** Corrosion current density of EPDM / PE coatings as a function of coating thickness, (without applying adhesive).
- **Fig. (4.46)** Corrosion current density of EPDM / PE coatings as a function of coating thickness, (with applying adhesive).

- **Fig. (4.47 4.49)** Effect of applying adhesive on polarization resistance of EPDM / PE coatings (1, 2, and 3 mm thickness).
- **Fig. (4.50)** SEM micrograph of carbon steel substrate after removing EPDM / PE coating (80 / 20).
- **Fig. (4.51)** SEM micrograph of EPDM / PE coating (80 / 20), after 24 months of ageing.
- **Fig. (4.52)** X – ray diffraction pattern of carbon steel substrate after removing the coating.

AIM OF THE WORK

In most economic sectors linked with industrial activities carbon steel alloy occupies a preferential position as structural material. Thus, the study of the electrochemical behavior of carbon steel alloy is one of the most important fields of research in metal corrosion.

In the present thesis we are aiming to study the corrosion behavior of carbon steel in natural seawater and to provide corrosion protection to carbon steel alloy by suitable corrosion prevention system. This system must be efficient in corrosion protection, industrially applicable and environmentally friendly. Polymeric coatings are among the most important systems that justify these requirements.

This work will be carried out through three parts :-

- 1 – Investigation of corrosion behavior of carbon steel alloy in seawater by different techniques.
- 2 – Specification of physico-chemical properties of EPDM/PE blends.
- 3– Evaluation of the efficiency of EPDM/PE blends as protective coating for carbon steel alloy.

A number of interesting features are disclosed which throw more and new light on the corrosion protection of carbon steel by polymeric coatings.