

P R E S S R E L E A S E

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“Touchchromic Materials – A New Discovery”

Just imagine, a window changing reversibly from opaque to transparent by simply touching it. Just imagine a framed picture changing color or revealing a hidden background by just touching it. Just imagine clothing changing from one color to a different color by just touching it. The science and technology of this new discovery has just been developed at the Clean Energy Research Center, University of South Florida. For the first time, color change in smart films has been observed when a metal contact is applied to a film, **TOUCHCHROMIC™**. Inexpensive polymers and polymers composites with nanomaterials show such color change when contacted by a specific metal. The color change does not require any energy (electrical, thermal, photo, chemical, etc.) to be applied to the smart film. The color change and color contrast depend on the type of film, thickness and the composition. Further, the smart film can be designed to achieve color change from red to dark blue and yellow to dark blue and vice-versa, by the application of a dye or other polymer film. This discovery of the color change of the smart film could be used not only in chromatic windows, but in a number of other potential applications such as rear view mirrors in vehicles, IR sensors, toy applications, camouflage clothing, to name but a few applications.

For More Information about the Clean Energy Research Center: The CERC's mission is scientific research, technical development, infrastructure development, and information transfer. Collaboration with energy producers in the transportation sector supports the economic development of manufacturing and high technology businesses, and the nations' goal of global competitiveness in technology leadership.

http://cerc.eng.usf.edu/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=153&Itemid=56

Contact Prof. Elias K. Stefanakos for more information, at 813-974-4413, and estefana@usf.edu

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