

**Cover:** The design and synthesis of base materials is a necessary step for innovation on materials and processes. Synergies can be achieved by appropriate combinations of these materials in a wide variety of forms and shapes, and for a large range of applications. This was the main topic of the first joint meeting 8th European Symposium on Polymer Blends and Eurofillers 2005, showing that problems concerning 'filled polymers' and 'polymer blends' are often very similar and deserve attention from both scientific communities. As an example, the picture shows a TEM image of a styrenics/polyamide blend by reactive blending, taken from the contribution by M. Weber et al.

