

VITA

Pankaj Gupta obtained his Bachelor's from the Indian Institute of Technology, Delhi, India in Textile Technology, with a major emphasis on Fiber and Polymer Engineering, in June 1998. Thereafter, in the Fall of 1998, he joined the University of Tennessee, Knoxville for his M.S. degree in Polymer Engineering under the mentorship of Prof. Joseph Spruiell with the focus of investigating processing-structure-property relationships in high-strength polyketone fibers produced by melt extrusion and post-spinning drawing. After the completion of his M.S, he joined the doctoral program in Chemical Engineering at Virginia Tech and studied under the mentorship of Prof. Garth Wilkes. Here, the primary focus of his research was to explore processing-structure-property relationships of submicron polymeric fibers produced by electrospinning and to ascertain whether or not the length of the short chain branch has any effect on the physical properties of films of linear low-density polyethylenes (LLDPEs). He is a member of the American Chemical Society, Materials Research Society and the Fiber Society. In addition, he has taken an active interest in student leadership activities at Virginia Tech. He served as the President of the Council of International Students (representing over 2000 international students) and subsequently as the President of the Graduate Student Assembly (representing over 6000 graduate students) at Virginia Tech.