

## Release behavior of antifouling materials based on intercalated layered double hydroxides

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**Abstract** Improving the utilization rate of environmentally friendly antifouling agents is highly important for reducing the economic costs of ship operations and protecting the marine environment. In this work, a new method for preparing a multistage controlled release material of an environmentally friendly antifouling agent, which first incorporates 2-(p-chlorophenyl)-3-cyano-4-bromo-5-trifluoromethyl pyrrole (Econea) into carboxyl-modified  $\beta$ -cyclodextrin (Econea@CMCD) followed by intercalation into  $Mg_2Al$  layered double hydroxides ( $Mg_2Al$ -Econea@CMCD-LDH), was reported. Powder X-ray diffraction (XRD) and Fourier transform infrared spectroscopy (FT-IR) confirmed the incorporation of Econea@CMCD into the galleries of  $Mg_2Al$ -LDH. Release tests conducted in 3.5% NaCl solution demonstrated an initial burst release, followed by a slower release rate of Econea ( $12.3 \mu g/cm^2 \cdot d$ ) compared to that of the pristine Econea coating, indicating favorable controlled release behavior. Adhesion experiments using diatoms and mussels showed that  $Mg_2Al$ -Econea@CMCD-LDH effectively inhibited the adhesion of typical fouling organisms. Hence, this study presents a practical approach for constructing a controlled release system that involves intercalating neutral and insoluble antifouling agents into LDH interlayers, effectively reducing the waste of antifouling agents and extending the service life of antifouling coatings.

**Keywords** layered double hydroxide; Econea; composite materials; thick films; controlled release; antifouling properties

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