

TruGraphene®

Pristine, High-Purity Graphene for Scalable Innovation in Infrastructure, Coatings, and Advanced Engineering Systems

Developed and Produced by: Rotger Research Foundation Inc.

Commercialized by: Graphene Solid State Group LLC

Abstract:

TruGraphene® represents a breakthrough in the commercial-scale production of pristine graphene — free of oxides, functional defects, and contaminants — tailored for high-performance applications across infrastructure, energy, electronics, and engineered composites. Developed through proprietary fusion-exfoliation techniques, TruGraphene® maintains atomic lattice integrity, resulting in superior tensile strength, electrical conductivity, thermal management, and chemical stability compared to conventional graphene derivatives (e.g., GO or GNPs). This whitepaper presents the scientific foundation, production methodology, material characterization, and application-specific integration pathways that position TruGraphene® as a foundational platform for next-generation materials and products.

1. Executive Summary

Redefining Graphene for Industrial Reality: The Purity, Power, and Precision of TruGraphene®

TruGraphene® is a **proprietary, high-purity graphene nanomaterial** engineered to deliver the full performance potential of graphene in large-scale industrial environments. While most commercially available graphene is compromised by oxidation, structural defects, or multi-layer aggregation, **TruGraphene® preserves the atomic-scale lattice, monolayer-to-few-layer consistency, and surface chemistry** that make graphene one of the most revolutionary materials discovered in the modern era.

What sets TruGraphene® apart is its **complete molecular fidelity**: it is not graphene oxide (GO), which suffers from low conductivity and chemical instability; it is not reduced graphene oxide (rGO), which contains lattice damage from post-synthesis treatments; and it is not graphene nanoplatelets (GNPs), which are thick, fragmented, and poorly integrated into host materials. Instead, **TruGraphene® represents a structurally intact, electronically pure, and application-ready material**, capable of seamless dispersion, uniform bonding, and exceptional durability.

Developed through years of focused research at **Rotger Research Foundation Inc.**, TruGraphene® is the result of a proprietary **multi-phase synthesis and purification protocol** involving non-oxidative exfoliation, contaminant filtration, and layer selection at the nanoscale. Each batch is subjected to **rigorous quality control** using Raman spectroscopy, electron microscopy, and X-ray photoelectron spectroscopy (XPS), ensuring consistency, safety, and performance across all product lines. The

material is now exclusively commercialized by **Graphene Solid State Group LLC**, which manages industrial scaling, client integration, and regulatory compliance.

TruGraphene® has been designed from the ground up for **real-world deployment** across multiple high-impact sectors, including:

- **Civil and Marine Infrastructure:** For use as an admixture in concrete and a barrier layer in corrosion-prone applications
- **Energy Systems:** As a conductive filler and electrode material in batteries, supercapacitors, and printed energy devices
- **Advanced Coatings and Paints:** Enabling UV resistance, thermal stability, salt spray protection, and antimicrobial functionality
- **Smart Electronics and EMI Shielding:** Providing tunable conductivity and electromagnetic attenuation in lightweight composites
- **Polymer Reinforcement and Structural Composites:** Elevating modulus, fracture resistance, and weight-to-strength ratios

The product is available in various delivery forms — including powders, dispersions, and surface-coated intermediates — and has been validated in formulation trials with both private manufacturers and government-backed infrastructure pilots. These integrations confirm its **multifunctional benefits**, from mechanical strength to corrosion inhibition to energy efficiency, even in extreme environments.

This whitepaper provides an in-depth look at the science behind TruGraphene®, including:

- A comparison of its material properties to leading alternatives (GO, rGO, GNPs)
- A review of its synthesis approach and material characterization
- Laboratory and field test data under ASTM, ISO, and AASHTO protocols
- Environmental, safety, and sustainability considerations
- Deployment strategies for different sectors and geographic zones

Most importantly, the document reinforces the proprietary and **trade secret status** of TruGraphene®'s internal formulation and manufacturing sequence. While the material's performance can be independently verified and safely implemented into a wide range of industrial workflows, **the underlying technology is protected under intellectual property law and is not publicly disclosed outside of tightly governed NDA agreements.**

In a field long dominated by theoretical hype and underwhelming commercialization, **TruGraphene® represents a breakthrough that is not only scientifically sound but practically ready** — engineered with precision, validated by data, and scalable for global industry.

2. Scientific Motivation

Bridging the Gap Between Theoretical Potential and Industrial Reality in Graphene Innovation

Since its isolation in 2004, **graphene** has been heralded as a transformative material — one with the potential to revolutionize sectors as diverse as electronics, construction, energy storage, aerospace, and biotechnology. Its exceptional properties are widely documented: a **tensile strength 200 times greater than steel**, **electrical conductivity surpassing copper**, **thermal conductivity rivaling diamond**, and an **impermeable atomic lattice** that can block even helium gas. These attributes have earned graphene the title of a "wonder material."

Yet despite two decades of accelerated research, **real-world industrial adoption of graphene remains surprisingly limited**. The challenge is not with graphene's theoretical potential, but rather with the **practical difficulties of producing and deploying high-purity, application-ready graphene at commercial scale**. The gap between research-grade graphene and manufacturing-grade graphene has proven wider than initially expected — and it is within this critical gap that **TruGraphene®** was born.

2.1 The Problem with Conventional Graphene Derivatives

The current commercial landscape is dominated by **low-cost but low-performance substitutes**, most of which do not represent true graphene at all:

- ***Impurities and Oxidation (GO/rGO)***

Graphene oxide (GO) is the most widely available form of graphene due to its ease of production via the Hummers method. However, GO is **not electrically conductive**, **chemically unstable**, and **mechanically brittle** due to the high density of oxygen-containing functional groups and structural defects introduced during oxidation. Reduced graphene oxide (rGO), while partially restoring conductivity, suffers from **permanent lattice disruption** and offers highly variable performance from batch to batch.

- ***Low Aspect Ratio and Aggregation (GNPs)***

Graphene nanoplatelets (GNPs) are comprised of stacked layers of graphite fragments. While they offer a modest improvement in mechanical strength or thermal conductivity in bulk composites, their **low surface area**, **irregular thickness**, and **poor dispersibility** in aqueous or polymeric systems make them unsuitable for applications requiring nanoscale uniformity, such as coatings, batteries, or advanced sensors.

- ***Inconsistent Manufacturing Standards***

Perhaps most critically, the **absence of global production standards** for graphene has resulted in inconsistent quality, mislabeled products, and widespread market confusion. Materials labeled as "graphene" often vary wildly in thickness, purity, oxygen content, and lateral dimension — leading to

unpredictable performance and loss of confidence among manufacturers, designers, and regulatory bodies.

2.2 The TruGraphene® Solution: Purity, Structure, and Scalability

TruGraphene® was developed to directly confront and overcome these barriers through a proprietary **fusion-exfoliation process** that isolates high-purity, monolayer-to-few-layer graphene with **no oxidation, minimal basal-plane defects, and high aspect ratios**.

This unique process — developed at **Rotger Research Foundation Inc.** — ensures the material:

- Maintains **sp²-hybridized carbon bonding** without introducing oxygen or epoxide groups
- Preserves **layer uniformity** while enhancing **lateral sheet size**, increasing dispersion and interfacial interaction with host matrices
- Achieves **structural consistency and batch reproducibility**, allowing performance to be scaled from lab to factory floor

The result is a graphene product that is **not only theoretically powerful but practically reliable** — capable of being standardized, formulated, and integrated across multiple commercial sectors.

2.3 Deployment in High-Demand Systems

Because of its purity and structural integrity, TruGraphene® can be applied to a wide range of engineered systems where conventional graphene derivatives fail. Specific application examples include:

- **Marine Coatings:** TruGraphene® forms an impermeable, corrosion-resistant barrier when embedded in epoxy and acrylic resins, ideal for saltwater-exposed surfaces.
 - **Concrete Admixtures:** It integrates into Portland cement and blended hydraulic systems to enhance compressive and flexural strength, reduce permeability, and resist chloride-induced corrosion of rebar.
 - **Energy Storage Devices:** Its conductivity and thermal properties make it an ideal candidate for improving electrode efficiency, interfacial charge transport, and lifecycle in supercapacitors and lithium-ion batteries.
 - **EMI/RF Shielding Materials:** In lightweight polymer composites and paints, TruGraphene® delivers consistent electromagnetic attenuation, useful for electronics housings, drones, defense enclosures, and smart grid components.
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2.4 Why It Matters Now

The world is entering a critical phase of materials transformation. **Infrastructure is aging, supply chains are shifting, climate extremes are intensifying, and energy systems are becoming smarter and more distributed.** These macroeconomic and technological trends demand materials that are:

- **Stronger and lighter**
- **Electrically and thermally conductive**
- **Environmentally stable**
- **Digitally responsive**
- **Mass producible**

TruGraphene® uniquely satisfies these intersecting requirements. It is not merely a scientific curiosity — it is a foundational material platform for the next century of engineering, construction, energy, and defense.

3. Material Properties & Characterization

TruGraphene® is independently validated through:

- **Raman Spectroscopy** (low D/G ratio, sharp 2D band)
- **Scanning Electron Microscopy (SEM)** and **Transmission Electron Microscopy (TEM)** for layer thickness and lateral dimension
- **XPS** for oxygen/carbon ratios (<1%)
- **BET Surface Area** measurement for nanocomposite load prediction

Property	TruGraphene® Value	Industry Standard (GO/GNP)
Electrical Conductivity	~10 ⁶ S/m	~10 ² –10 ³ S/m (GO)
Surface Area	1500–2200 m ² /g	300–500 m ² /g (GNP)
Thickness	<5 nm	5–100 nm (GO, GNPs)
Oxygen Content	<1%	10–40% (GO)
Thermal Conductivity	~5000 W/m·K	<300 W/m·K (GO/rGO)
Tensile Strength	~130 GPa	~15–30 GPa (GNP)

4. Proprietary Manufacturing Method

Delivering Industrial-Grade Graphene Without Compromise — Environmentally, Structurally, or Functionally

The vast majority of graphene derivatives currently circulating in the global market are produced using methods that are either **chemically aggressive, structurally destructive, or environmentally unsustainable**. Chief among these is the **Hummers method**, a widely used approach that relies on potent oxidizing agents (e.g., potassium permanganate and sulfuric acid) to chemically exfoliate graphite into graphene oxide (GO). While inexpensive and scalable, this method irreversibly compromises graphene's core lattice structure, introduces oxygen functional groups, and generates hazardous chemical waste—including acid mist, heavy metal residues, and thermal exotherms requiring high-energy neutralization.

Even newer adaptations such as **reduced graphene oxide (rGO)** or **plasma-etched graphene nanoplatelets (GNPs)** still depend on **post-synthesis corrections** that consume energy, reduce material integrity, and produce inconsistent product quality. The result is graphene that is **electrically inferior, chemically unstable, prone to agglomeration, and unsuitable for high-performance applications** like energy storage, structural composites, and sensor networks.

TruGraphene® eliminates these limitations through a proprietary, environmentally conscious, non-oxidative manufacturing method designed from the ground up by Rotger Research Foundation Inc. This closed-system process not only produces graphene of superior quality, but does so without the use of corrosive reagents, without structural degradation, and without the emissions typically associated with industrial nanomaterials synthesis.

While specific operational parameters and formulations remain confidential under trade secret protections, the following process overview has been made available to verified partners under NDA:

4.1 Fusion-Driven Precursor Purification

Redefining Carbon Inputs: Advanced Material Purity Beyond Graphite

Unlike the majority of commercial graphene producers, who rely on **natural or synthetic graphite** as their raw material—often mined from inconsistent geological sources and contaminated with heavy metals—**TruGraphene® is produced without using graphite as a precursor**. Instead, it is synthesized from **select high-purity carbonaceous sources** chosen for their structural uniformity, molecular simplicity, and low trace-element contamination.

These carbon sources are **engineered feedstocks**—not mined minerals—carefully processed through a proprietary **fusion-driven purification cycle** developed by **Rotger Research Foundation Inc.** This strategy enables **total process control** at the molecular level while eliminating the environmental, economic, and structural limitations of graphite-based production.

Key purification stages include:

- **Thermal cycling at controlled gradients exceeding 2000°C:**
High-temperature treatment in a sealed, inert-atmosphere reactor breaks down volatile carbon species, drives out organics, and promotes carbon ordering. This stage also vaporizes trace non-carbon elements embedded in the structure of raw feedstock.
 - **Pressure-modulated mechanical refinement:**
Under controlled compression and shear forces, the carbon precursor undergoes structural densification and interlayer realignment, optimizing it for downstream exfoliation. This ensures uniform carbon crystallites without the basal-plane defects associated with mechanically milled graphite.
 - **Catalyst residue removal (Fe, Ni, S):**
Any potential residual catalysts or metallic traces—common in carbon sources from industrial reactors or pyrolytic furnaces—are eliminated using **gas-phase scavenging techniques** and inert-carrier-assisted volatilization.
 - **Organic contaminant volatilization:**
Using inert gas flushing (typically Ar or N₂), oxygenated and hydrogenated hydrocarbon chains are stripped from the carbon matrix. This removes precursors to instability and electrical insulation, ensuring **electronic purity** in the final graphene layers.
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A Superior Carbon Starting Point

The result is a carbon platform that is:

- **Free from geological contaminants** (e.g., silicates, oxides, heavy metals)
- **Structurally aligned** for consistent delamination during exfoliation
- **Surface-stable** without requiring chemical pre-treatment
- **Highly conductive and hydrophobic** — ideal traits for functional graphene

By avoiding graphite altogether, the **TruGraphene® process bypasses the bottlenecks** of oxidation-reduction cycles, mechanical grinding, and mineral-based variability. Instead, it begins with a **laboratory-controlled, carbon-engineered input**, enabling total traceability and unmatched performance consistency.

Why This Matters

Most GO, rGO, and GNP producers are fundamentally limited by their reliance on **raw or processed graphite**, which:

- Is **inherently inconsistent** in crystalline size, mineral content, and trace metals
- Must undergo **harsh chemical oxidation** to exfoliate layers, producing toxic effluent

- Yields **damaged graphene** that often requires reduction, stabilization, or doping to recover lost properties

By contrast, **TruGraphene® enters the production cycle at a molecular advantage**, setting a new standard for **feedstock purity, process sustainability, and structural performance** in industrial graphene.

4.2 Non-Oxidative Exfoliation

Departing from the chemically destructive exfoliation used in the Hummers and Tour methods, TruGraphene® employs a **non-oxidative, solvent-assisted delamination process**. Key characteristics include:

- **No use of strong acids or oxidizers**
- **Preservation of π -bonding across the basal planes**
- **Mechanical shearing under laminar flow**
- **Solvent recycling to minimize waste and emissions**

This method produces **monolayer to few-layer graphene sheets** with **minimal edge disorder**, high lateral aspect ratios, and intact lattice architecture. Because the carbon-carbon sp^2 bonds remain undisturbed, **the material retains its extraordinary mechanical strength, electron mobility, and thermal conductivity**.

4.3 Nano-Filtration and Layer Selection

The exfoliated slurry is passed through a **precision-controlled membrane filtration system**, capable of:

- Isolating graphene sheets **<5 nanometers in thickness**
- Sorting by **lateral dimension and aspect ratio**
- Removing **residual graphite and non-functionalized particles**
- Producing consistent morphology across production batches

This step ensures **uniformity in surface area, dispersion behavior, and reactivity**, allowing TruGraphene® to be tailored to various application matrices, including:

- Cement-based composites
- Polymer resins and paints
- Coating intermediates

- Conductive inks

4.4 Batch Consistency and Quality Control

Every batch of TruGraphene® undergoes a **comprehensive quality assurance protocol** that includes:

- **Raman spectroscopy** to assess D/G ratio and confirm minimal defect density
- **X-ray photoelectron spectroscopy (XPS)** to verify low oxygen content (<1%)
- **Scanning and transmission electron microscopy (SEM/TEM)** to examine morphology
- **BET surface area measurement** to validate dispersion potential
- **Thermal and electrical conductivity testing** using ASTM D5470 and D257 methods

Additionally, application-specific performance tests are run for:

- **Concrete admixtures** (e.g., ASTM C39, C666, C1202)
- **Coatings and sealants** (e.g., ASTM B117, D3359, D522)
- **Energy storage electrodes** (e.g., cyclic voltammetry, galvanostatic cycling)

Only batches that meet stringent performance thresholds are released for downstream use.

4.5 Environmental Safety and Sustainability

The entire TruGraphene® manufacturing cycle is designed for **environmental responsibility and sustainability**, featuring:

- **Zero hazardous chemical discharge**
- **Solvent recycling systems** with >95% recovery rate
- **Low water consumption per kg of graphene produced**
- **No high-pH or high-oxidation effluents**
- **Reduced carbon footprint** compared to chemically exfoliated alternatives

This positions TruGraphene® not only as a technical leap forward, but as a model for **next-generation nanomaterials that align with global ESG (Environmental, Social, and Governance) mandates**.

In summary, the TruGraphene® process was engineered to overcome the **environmental inefficiencies, structural compromises, and chemical hazards** that have held back graphene's industrial potential for more than a decade. It is a **clean, scalable, and performance-driven solution** that delivers true graphene — not in theory, but in practice.

5. Application Domains

TruGraphene® is designed to serve as a **foundational platform material** across a wide range of industries:

5.1 Infrastructure & Concrete

- Enhances compressive and flexural strength
- Reduces permeability and chloride ion migration
- Improves freeze–thaw durability
- Enables self-sensing cement through conductivity

5.2 Protective Coatings

- Provides EMI shielding and electrostatic dissipation
- Significantly improves UV resistance and thermal stability
- Acts as a corrosion-inhibiting layer for marine and industrial surfaces

5.3 Energy & Electronics

- Boosts performance in battery anodes, supercapacitors, and printed electronics
- Functions as a conductive filler in polymer films
- Offers heat-spreading capability in electronics packaging

5.4 Composites & Textiles

- Improves tensile and flexural modulus in thermoplastics and resins
- Enables lightweight armor and flame-retardant fabrics
- Provides antimicrobial properties in bioactive materials

6. Environmental & Regulatory Compliance

Engineered for Clean Performance and Responsible Global Integration

In the era of climate adaptation, regulatory scrutiny, and ESG-driven industrial policy, nanomaterials are under increasing pressure to demonstrate not only performance, but **responsible lifecycle behavior**. As graphene enters critical sectors such as public infrastructure, energy, electronics, and coatings, questions of **toxicity, waste, occupational safety, and supply chain integrity** are no longer optional — they are **fundamental**.

TruGraphene® was developed with these imperatives in mind. From precursor selection to final quality control, the material is **designed to meet or exceed the world's most rigorous environmental and safety standards**, while offering downstream stakeholders confidence in its regulatory compatibility and long-term sustainability.

6.1 Purity and Composition

TruGraphene® is synthesized without the use of mineral-derived graphite or chemically aggressive exfoliation agents. As a result, the material is:

- **Free of heavy metals** such as Fe, Ni, Cu, Pb, Cd, and Hg, which are commonly found in graphite-derived GO or industrial-grade GNPs due to mining impurities and catalyst residues.
- **Devoid of halogens** (e.g., Cl⁻, F⁻, Br⁻), which can lead to corrosive byproducts, interfere with polymer compatibility, and create complications during thermal processing.
- **Free from reactive oxygen species (ROS)** and oxidative functional groups, particularly epoxides and hydroxyls that contribute to instability, cytotoxicity, and unwanted redox behavior in concrete, coatings, or biomedical interfaces.

This level of chemical and structural purity is critical for:

- **Bio-inert surfaces** in public infrastructure
 - **Zero-VOC coatings** and paints
 - **Electrically neutral packaging materials**
 - **Non-corrosive energy and thermal systems**
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6.2 Global Compliance and Material Transparency

TruGraphene® is fully compliant with the following internationally recognized environmental and safety regulations:

- **REACH (EU Regulation 1907/2006):** TruGraphene® contains no Substances of Very High Concern (SVHC) and is manufactured and transported in full compliance with registration and classification requirements applicable to nanoscale carbon-based materials.
- **RoHS (Restriction of Hazardous Substances Directive):** The material contains none of the banned substances under EU Directive 2011/65/EU (including lead, mercury, cadmium, hexavalent chromium, PBB, and PBDEs), making it fully compliant for use in electronics, energy, and construction components.
- **California Proposition 65:** TruGraphene® does not contain any listed carcinogens, reproductive toxins, or environmental pollutants under the Safe Drinking Water and Toxic Enforcement Act of 1986.

- **Globally Harmonized System (GHS) Classification:** Supplied with up-to-date **Safety Data Sheets (SDS)**, including physicochemical properties, exposure controls, and toxicological profiles as per OSHA and UN GHS criteria.
- **Worker and Transport Protocols:** TruGraphene® is accompanied by:
 - **Transportation classification documents (UN 3178, non-flammable solid, Class 9 if applicable)**
 - **Handling and engineering control procedures** for occupational exposure and dust mitigation (e.g., HEPA-filtered ventilation, glovebox use)
 - **Labeling and signage guidelines** per ANSI Z400.1 and ISO 11014

This comprehensive documentation ensures **safe integration** into R&D labs, pilot plants, and full-scale manufacturing environments across regulatory jurisdictions.

6.3 Circular Process Design and Waste Minimization

TruGraphene® is manufactured using a **closed-loop solvent system**, which:

- Recycles >95% of process solvents and aqueous suspensions
- Minimizes liquid discharge to under 1 liter per kg of product
- Uses no acid, base, or halogenated reagents
- Operates below toxic gas generation thresholds
- Produces **no sludge, sludge cake, or post-processing neutralization effluent**

This enables **low-carbon manufacturing**, simplified permitting, and **zero hazardous waste classification**, particularly important in states and countries with strict waste disposal legislation.

6.4 Alignment with Global Sustainability Frameworks

In addition to regulatory compliance, TruGraphene® is actively aligned with:

- **UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)** including:
 - *Goal 9:* Industry, Innovation, and Infrastructure
 - *Goal 11:* Sustainable Cities and Communities
 - *Goal 12:* Responsible Consumption and Production
 - *Goal 13:* Climate Action
- **LEED v4.1 Credits** for:
 - **Materials and Resources:** Low-emitting materials

- Environmental Product Declarations (EPDs)
 - Life Cycle Assessment (LCA) optimization pathways
 - **ISO 14001** environmental management standards, with internal protocols developed to meet ISO 14040 (LCA principles and framework) and ISO 14044 (impact assessment metrics) pending external verification.
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6.5 Climate Resilience and Lifecycle Benefits

The true sustainability of TruGraphene® lies not only in its manufacturing but in its **performance-enhancing role** across the product lifecycle. By enabling:

- **Longer-lasting concrete and coatings**
- **Lower failure rates in marine and corrosion-exposed environments**
- **Reduced frequency of recoating, repair, or demolition**
- **Lighter-weight structures in transportation and aerospace**
- **Energy-saving conductive layers and thermal buffers**

TruGraphene® reduces material throughput, extends service life, and **lowers the embodied carbon** of physical infrastructure over decades.

Conclusion

TruGraphene® is not merely a high-performance material—it is a model of **environmental stewardship, chemical safety, and global regulatory compliance**. Its synthesis avoids the hazardous practices that define most graphene production. Its supply chain is clean, traceable, and documentation-ready. And its integration into industrial systems supports a measurable reduction in emissions, waste, and lifecycle burden.

This positions TruGraphene® as a **next-generation nanomaterial that advances both engineering excellence and environmental responsibility**, setting a new global standard for the commercial deployment of graphene in the 21st century.

7. Intellectual Property and Protection

- **TruGraphene®** is a registered trademark of Graphene Solid State Group LLC

- All manufacturing protocols, precursor formulations, and downstream functionalization strategies are protected as **trade secrets**
- Select IP is under **provisional patent review** in domains involving TruGraphene®-based composites, sensing platforms, and hybrid systems (e.g., Fortivene®)

Distribution of chemical details, synthesis procedures, or nano-structural data is restricted to **NDA-secured partnerships only**.

8. Strategic Outlook

With pilot programs already underway in **municipal infrastructure, marine coatings, and energy storage devices**, TruGraphene® is emerging as one of the few scalable graphene platforms capable of fulfilling its theoretical potential. Strategic expansion is focused on:

- Licensing agreements with **concrete and polymer companies**
- Joint ventures with **sensor and electronics manufacturers**
- Government-backed **infrastructure resilience initiatives**
- Integration into **military-grade composites and thermal shielding**

Conclusion

TruGraphene® redefines the standard for graphene-based materials. Scientifically pure, structurally intact, and commercially deployable, it serves as both a foundational element and an enabling material in the future of smart, sustainable, and enduring systems.

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Rotger Research Foundation Inc.

info@rotgerresearchfoundastion.org

www.rotgerresearchfoundastion.org

Graphene Solid State Group LLC

Email: info@graphenesolidstategroup.com

Website: www.graphenesolidstategroup.com