Natural rubber is an important elastomer with the unique attribute of being a renewable agricultural product. The study was undertaken to investigate the extent to which the drawbacks of natural rubber, especially its poor thermal and oil resistance properties could be nullified by blending with common thermoset resins.

This thesis consists of six chapters. The first chapter consists of introduction and literature survey. Synthesis of epoxy resins and effects of these resins on the properties of NR are covered in the second chapter. Preparation and study the effects of phenolic novolacs are included in the third chapter. The fourth chapter consists of preparation of various novolacs and effects of these resins on the properties of NR. In the fifth chapter preparation of unsaturated polyester resins and their effects are investigated. Major conclusions are summarized in the sixth chapter.

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