Contents

| | Page |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------|------|
| Contents | viii |
| List of Tables | |
| List of Figures | |
| List of Abbreviations and Symbols | |
| Chapter | |
| 1 Introduction | 1 |
| 1.1 Background and Rationale | 1 |
| 1.2 Scope of study | 5 |
| 1.3 Objectives | 5 |
| 2 Literature Reviews | 6 |
| 2.1 Introduction | 6 |
| 2.2 Studies of the factor affecting the drying of rubber sheets | 6 |
| 2.3 Computational Fluid Dynamics method in air flow simulation | 7 |
| 2.4 Studies of temperature distribution and performance of | |
| the present rubber smoking room | 8 |
| 2.5 Literature remarks | 9 |
| 3 Governing equations and Numerical methods | 10 |
| 3.1 Introduction | 10 |
| 3.2 Governing equations | 10 |
| 3.3 Turbulence models | 12 |
| 3.4 Numerical methods | 22 |
| 4 Benchmarking of the CFD technique | |
| 4.1 Introduction | 25 |
| 4.2 Experimental works | 25 |
| 4.2.1 Equipments | 25 |
| 4.2.2 Methodology of experiment | 26 |
| 4.2.3 Experimental results | 29 |
| 4.3 Simulation of an Empty Rubber Smoking Room | 31 |
| 4.3.1 Boundary conditions, materials, and grid setting | 32 |
| 4.3.2 Simulation results | 34 |

Contents (Continued)

| | Page |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------|------|
| 4.4 Benchmarking the results and Discussion | 34 |
| 4.4.1 Heat Source | 34 |
| 4.4.2 Temperature | 35 |
| 4.4.3 Velocity | 37 |
| 4.5 Conclusions | 39 |
| 5 Velocity and Temperature Distributions in a Present Rubber Smoking Room | 40 |
| 5.1 Introduction | 40 |
| 5.2 Simulation of a present rubber smoking room using FloVent program | 40 |
| 5.2.1 Boundary conditions, materials, source input and grid setting | 40 |
| 5.2.2 Simulation results and Discussion | 43 |
| 5.3 Conclusions and Recommendation | 50 |
| 6 Improvement of the rubber smoking room | 51 |
| 6.1 Introduction | 51 |
| 6.2 Effects of size and number of gas supply ducts | 51 |
| 6.3 Effects of size, position and number of ventilating lids | 60 |
| 6.4 Effects of position, number, and size of gas supply ducts | |
| and ventilating lids | 70 |
| 6.5 Adjustment of the heat source input to the new model room | 77 |
| 6.6 Conclusions | 82 |
| 7 Conclusions and Recommendations | 84 |
| 7.1 Conclusions | 84 |
| 7.2 Recommendations | 85 |
| References | 85 |
| Appendix | 89 |
| Appendix A Temperature calibration of thermocouple used at all | |
| positions and the moisture content of firewood in the experiment | 90 |
| Appendix B Temperature results of all the case studies | 99 |
| Appendix C Drawing of a new model of the rubber smoking room | 111 |
| Vitae and List of Publications | 120 |

List of Tables

| Table | FablePa | |
|-------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----|
| 3.1 | Turbulence models. | 12 |
| 3.2 | Mixing lengths for two-dimensional turbulent flows. | 15 |
| 3.3 | Mixing length model assessments. | 15 |
| 3.4 | The $k - \varepsilon$ model assessment. | 17 |
| 3.5 | Reynolds stress equation model assessment. | 20 |
| 3.6 | Algebraic stress model assessment. | 22 |
| 4.1 | Details of component, material, size and material properties | |
| | of the rubber smoking room. | 33 |
| 4.2 | Comparison of velocities. | 38 |
| 5.1 | Components, materials, sizes and material properties of rubber smoking room. | 42 |

List of Figures

| Figure | | Page |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------|------|
| 1.1 | Data of NR producing countries in the world. | 2 |
| 1.2 | Procedure of RSS production. | 3 |
| 1.3 | Non-uniform RSS on a cart. | 4 |
| 2.1 | Temperature distribution at 13 positions in the rubber smoking room. | 8 |
| 4.1 | Diagram for experimental methodology. | 26 |
| 4.2 | Calibration of thermocouple probes with a standard thermometer. | 27 |
| 4.3 | Positions of temperature probes on each plane shown from | |
| | the side view of the rubber smoking room. | 27 |
| 4.4 | The positions of velocity measurement at both ventilating lids | |
| | shown from the top view. | 28 |
| 4.5 | Temperature histories at 15 positions in the room and ambient. | 29 |
| 4.6 | Velocity histories at 5 positions on the front ventilating lid. | 30 |
| 4.7 | Velocity histories at 5 positions on the rear ventilating lid. | 30 |
| 4.8 | Velocity histories at 3 positions on the burner inlet. | 31 |
| 4.9 | The rubber smoking room model. | 32 |
| 4.10 | The temperature contours on the front, middle and back planes | |
| | of the model room. | 34 |
| 4.11 Comparison of temperature between the experiment and simulation | | |
| | at the front plane. | 35 |
| 4.12 Comparison of temperature between the experiment and simulation | | |
| | at the middle plane. | 36 |
| 4.13 | Comparison of temperature between the experiment and simulation | |
| | at the rear plane. | 36 |
| 4.14 | Comparison of temperature between the experiment and simulation | |
| | at all positions. | 37 |
| 4.15 | The velocity vector plane on the supply duct line in the model room. | 37 |
| 5.1 | Components of a present smoking room shown from side view. | 41 |
| 5.2 | Positions of the hot gas supplying ducts of a present smoking room | |
| | shown in top view. | 41 |

List of Figures (Continued)

| Figur | e | Page |
|-------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------|
| 5.3 | Positions of temperature measurement in the rubber smoking room. | 43 |
| 5.4 | Flow pattern of a right plane of a present smoking room. | 44 |
| 5.5 | Flow pattern of a middle plane of a present smoking room. | 44 |
| 5.6 | Flow pattern of a left plane of a present smoking room. | 45 |
| 5.7 | Temperature contour of a right plane of a present smoking room. | 46 |
| 5.8 | Temperature contour of a middle plane of a present smoking room. | 46 |
| 5.9 | Temperature contour of a left plane of a present smoking room. | 47 |
| 5.10 | Temperature distribution in the rubber smoking room. | 48 |
| 6.1 | Temperature contour on the left plane of the example case study. | 52 |
| 6.2 | Positions of the gas supply ducts and ventilating lids for the case study 1 | |
| | shown from the top view. | 53 |
| 6.3 | Flow pattern on the right plane of the case study 1. | 53 |
| 6.4 | Flow pattern on the middle plane of the case study 1. | 54 |
| 6.5 | Flow pattern on the left plane of the case study 1. | 54 |
| 6.6 | Temperature contour on the right plane of the case study 1. | 55 |
| 6.7 | Temperature contour on the middle plane of the case study 1. | 55 |
| 6.8 | Temperature contour on the left plane of the case study 1. | 56 |
| 6.9 | Positions of the gas supply ducts and the ventilating lids of the case study 2 | |
| | shown from the top view. | 57 |
| 6.10 | Flow pattern on the right plane of the case study 2. | 57 |
| 6.11 | Flow pattern on the middle plane of the case study 2. | 58 |
| 6.12 | Temperature contour on the right plane of the case study 2. | 59 |
| 6.13 | Temperature contour on the middle plane of the case study 2. | 59 |
| 6.14 | Positions of the ventilating lids and the gas supply ducts of the case study 3 | |
| | shown from the top view. | 60 |
| 6.15 | Flow pattern on the right plane of the case study 3. | 61 |
| 6.16 | Flow pattern on the middle plane of the case study 3. | 62 |
| 6.17 | Temperature contour on the right plane of the case study 3. | 62 |
| 6.18 | Temperature contour on the middle plane of the case study 3. | 63 |

List of Figures (Continued)

| Figure | Page |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------|
| 6.19 Positions of the ventilating lids and the gas supply ducts of the case study 4 | |
| shown from the top view. | 64 |
| 6.20 Flow pattern on the right plane of the case study 4. | 65 |
| 6.21 Flow pattern on the middle plane of the case study 4. | 65 |
| 6.22 Temperature contour on the right plane of the case study 4. | 66 |
| 6.23 Temperature contour on the middle plane of the case study 4. | 66 |
| 6.24 Positions of the ventilating lids and the gas supply ducts of the case study 5 | |
| shown from the top view. | 67 |
| 6.25 Flow pattern on the right plane of the case study 5. | 68 |
| 6.26 Flow pattern on the middle plane of the case study 5. | 68 |
| 6.27 Temperature contour on the right plane of the case study 5. | 69 |
| 6.28 Temperature contour on the middle plane of the case study 5. | 70 |
| 6.29 Positions of the ventilating lids and the gas supply ducts of the case study 6 | |
| shown from the top view. | 71 |
| 6.30 Flow pattern on the right plane of the case study 6. | 72 |
| 6.31 Flow pattern on the middle plane of the case study 6. | 72 |
| 6.32 Temperature contour on the right plane of the case study 6. | 73 |
| 6.33 Temperature contour on the middle plane of the case study 6. | 73 |
| 6.34 Positions of the ventilating lids and the gas supply ducts of the case study 7 | |
| shown from the top view. | 74 |
| 6.35 Flow pattern on the right plane of the case study 7. | 75 |
| 6.36 Flow pattern on the middle plane of the case study 7. | 75 |
| 6.37 Temperature contour on the right plane of the case study 7. | 76 |
| 6.38 Temperature contour on the middle plane of the case study 7. | 76 |
| 6.39 Flow pattern on the right plane of the case study 8. | 78 |
| 6.40 Flow pattern on the middle plane of the case study 8. | 78 |
| 6.41 Temperature contour on the right plane of the case study 8. | 79 |
| 6.42 Temperature contour on the middle plane of the case study 8. | 79 |
| 6.43 Flow pattern on the right plane of the case study 9. | 80 |
| 6.44 Flow pattern on the middle plane of the case study 9. | 81 |

List of Figures (Continued)

| Figure | Page |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------|------|
| 6.45 Temperature contour on the right plane of the case study 9. | 81 |
| 6.46 Temperature contour on the middle plane of the case study 9. | 82 |

List of Abbreviations and Symbols

Abbreviations

| CFD | Computational fluid dynamics |
|--------|---------------------------------|
| DNS | Direct numerical simulation |
| LES | Large Eddy Simulation |
| RANS | Reynolds-Averaged Navier-Stokes |
| RSM | Reynolds stress model |
| ASM | Algebraic stress model |
| LGS | Line Gauss-Seidel method |
| TDMA | Tri-diagonal matrix algorithm |
| SIMPLE | Semi-Implicit Method |

Symbols

| ū | Mean velocity components, m/s |
|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------|
| $\overline{u_i}$ | Velocity fluctuation, m/s |
| $\overline{\mathbf{P}}$ | Pressure, N/m ² |
| X_i | Coordinate axis (x, y, z) |
| ρ | Density, kg/m ³ |
| g_i | Gravitational acceleration vector, m/s ² |
| β | Thermal expansion coefficient, K^{-1} |
| μ | Viscosity, N·s/m ² |
| μ_{t} | Turbulent or eddy viscosity, $N \cdot s/m^2$ |
| \overline{T} | Mean temperature, K |
| $\overline{T'}$ | Temperature fluctuation, K |
| $	au_{ij}$ | Reynolds stress, N/m ² |
| Γ_t | Turbulent scalar diffusivity |
| $\sigma_{\!\scriptscriptstyle H}$ | Turbulent-Prandtl number |
| $\delta_{_{ij}}$ | Kronecker delta |
| k | Turbulent kinetic energy |

List of Abbreviations and Symbols (Continued)

| V_t | Kinematics turbulent viscosity, m ² /s |
|---------------|---------------------------------------------------|
| ℓ | Turbulent length scale, m |
| С | Dimensionless constant of proportionality |
| У | Coordinate normal to the wall, m |
| К | von Karman's constant |
| k | Turbulent kinetic energy |
| Е | Dissipation rate |
| Р | Shear production term |
| G | Buoyancy production term |
| Π_{ij} | Pressure-strain correlation term |
| Ω_{ij} | Rotation term |
| D_{it} | Diffusion term |
| $\omega_{_k}$ | Rotation vector |
| e_{ijk} | Alternation symbole |
| R_{ij} | Reynolds stress gradients |
| ϕ | Scalar variable value |