

《木头能比钢铁还坚硬吗？》

有一种新型材料比钢铁还要坚硬、轻盈，而且成本更低，它就是超级木头。



Researchers say they have created a new super-material in the laboratory. They say it is stronger, lighter and costs less than steel.

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But the new material is not a product of high technology or a metallic substance. It is wood.

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Researchers Liangbing Hu and Teng Li are with the University of Maryland in the United States.

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By using a few chemicals, heat and pressure, they have made wood three times denser and 10 times stronger. Hu says that means it can compete with some of the world's strongest materials.

[illegible]

Researcher Teng Li says he and Hu are finding many new ways to use wood, including creating batteries and see-through wood and paper.

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"Wood has been existing on Earth more than a million years. And human beings have been using wood for furniture, construction for more than 10 thousand years. And the more we worked on this material, we realized, we have never fully exhausted the potential of this amazing material."

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Other scientists are finding new uses for wood as well. Researchers in Sweden have reported making wood-based super-strong fibers for clothing and other materials.

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I'm Jonathan Evans.

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