

This week in techniques

Approach	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Chemistry			
Metal incorporation into protein biomaterials for better strength	Studies of spider silk suggest that direct incorporation of various metals into protein structures could increase the strength of some biomaterials. Pulsed vapor-phase incorporation of zinc, titanium and aluminum increased the strength of spider silk. Next steps include identifying other biomaterials amenable to metal incorporation and further optimizing the process. <i>SciBX</i> 2(17); doi:10.1038/scibx.2009.725 Published online April 30, 2009	Patent and licensing status undisclosed	Lee, S. <i>et al. Science</i> ; published online April 23, 2009; doi:10.1126/science.1168162 Contact: Mato Knez, Max Planck Institute of Microstructure Physics, Halle, Germany e-mail: ald@mpi-halle.de Contact: Seung-Mo Lee, same affiliation as above e-mail: smlee@mpi-halle.de