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Obtaining ultimate functionalities in nanocomposites

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ON THE COVER

Obtaining ultimate functionalities in nanccomposites. Composites represent a class of materials that combine two or more constituents into a form suitable for technological applications. This issue of *MRS Bulletin* focuses on nanoscale composites, with an emphasis on approaches to the design and control of the functionalities of nanocomposite materials. On the cover in the background is a plan-

view transmission electron microscope image of a vertically aligned nanocomposite LaFeO₃:CoFe₂O₄ (65:35 molar ratio) film with CoFe₂O₄ nanopillars embedded in a LaFeO₃ matrix. The schematic drawings show the most commonly investigated architectures of nanocomposites. (Top) 1–3-type nanocomposites with pillars or nanofibers aligned in a matrix. (Middle) 0–3-type nanocomposites with nanoparticles dispersed in a matrix. (Bottom) 2–2-type nanolaminates or heterostructured thin films or superlattices. Aiping Chen took the plan-view transmission electron microscope image, and Chris Sheehan drew the schematic drawings of the composites. See the technical theme that begins on page **719**.

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