

## Electronic Supplementary Information

### Upcycling of plastic waste into carbon nanotubes as efficient battery additives

Eonu Nam,<sup>‡a</sup> Gyori Park,<sup>‡b</sup> Ji Young Nam,<sup>c</sup> Sooryun Park,<sup>d</sup> Yoonjeong Jo,<sup>a</sup> Jihun Kim,<sup>a</sup>  
Byung Gwan Park,<sup>a</sup> Kyungeun Baek,<sup>a</sup> Seok Ju Kang,<sup>a</sup> Ho Won Ra,<sup>c</sup> Youngsoo Park,<sup>d</sup>  
Myung Won Seo,<sup>\*e</sup> Kyung Jin Lee<sup>\*b</sup>, and Kwangjin An<sup>\*a</sup>

<sup>a</sup>School of Energy and Chemical Engineering, and Graduate School of Carbon Neutrality, Ulsan National Institute of Science and Technology (UNIST), Ulsan 44919, Republic of Korea.

<sup>b</sup>Department of Chemical Engineering and Applied Chemistry, Chungnam National University, Daejeon 34134, Republic of Korea.

<sup>c</sup>Climate Change Research Division, Korea Institute of Energy Research (KIER), Daejeon 34129, Republic of Korea

<sup>d</sup>Korea Carbon Industry Promotion Agency, Jeonju 54853, Republic of Korea

<sup>e</sup>School of Environmental Engineering, University of Seoul, Seoul 02504, Republic of Korea.

<sup>‡</sup>These authors contributed equally to this work.

<sup>\*</sup>To whom correspondence should be addressed (E-mail: [kjan@unist.ac.kr](mailto:kjan@unist.ac.kr))

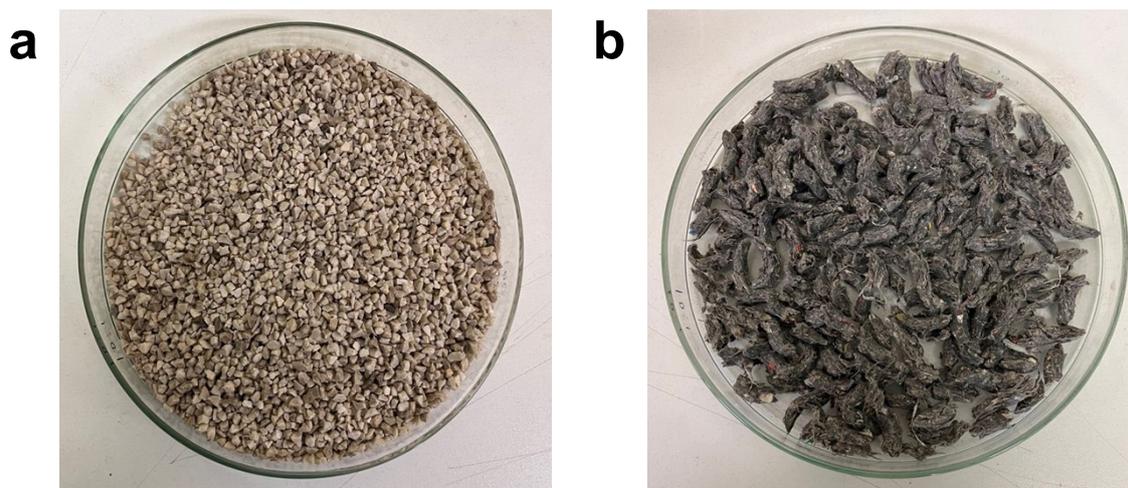


Fig. S1. Photographs of (a) masks and (b) SRF pellets used in pyrolysis.

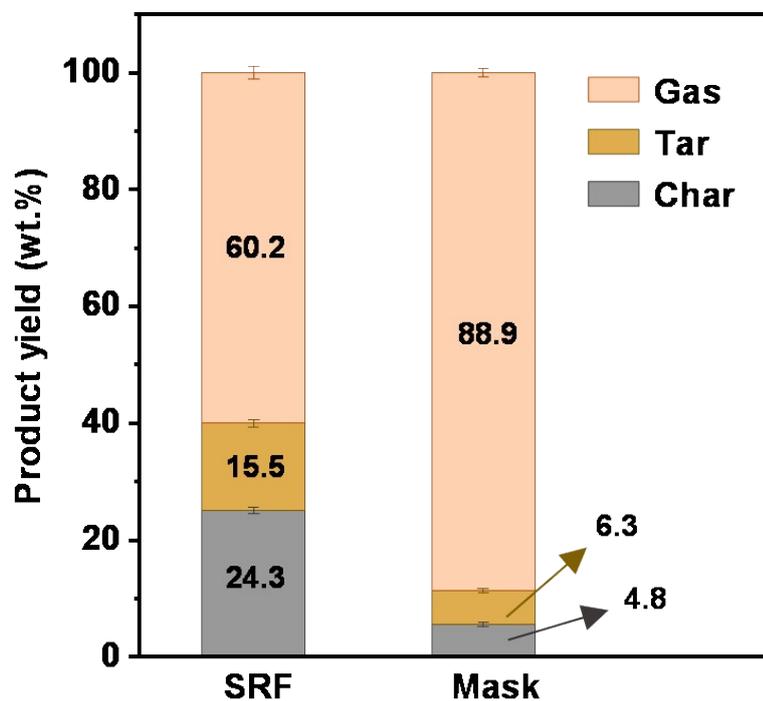
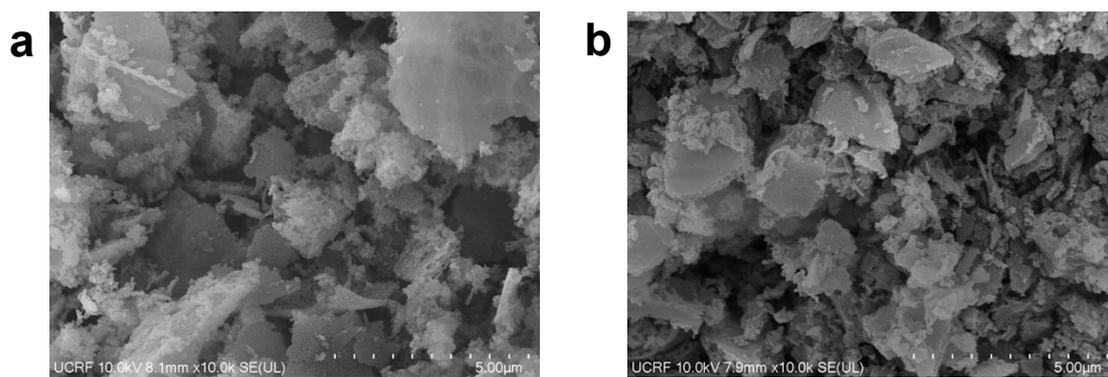
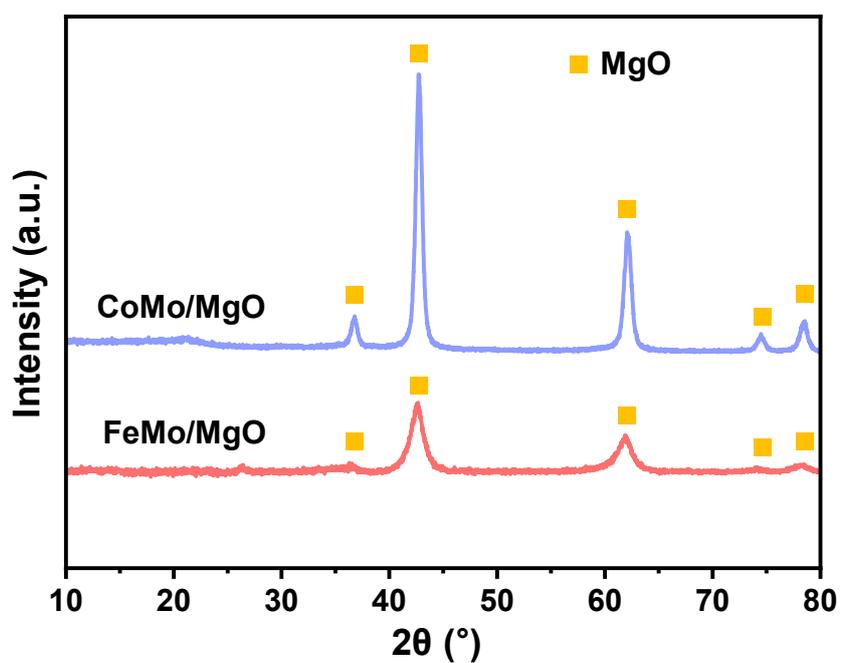


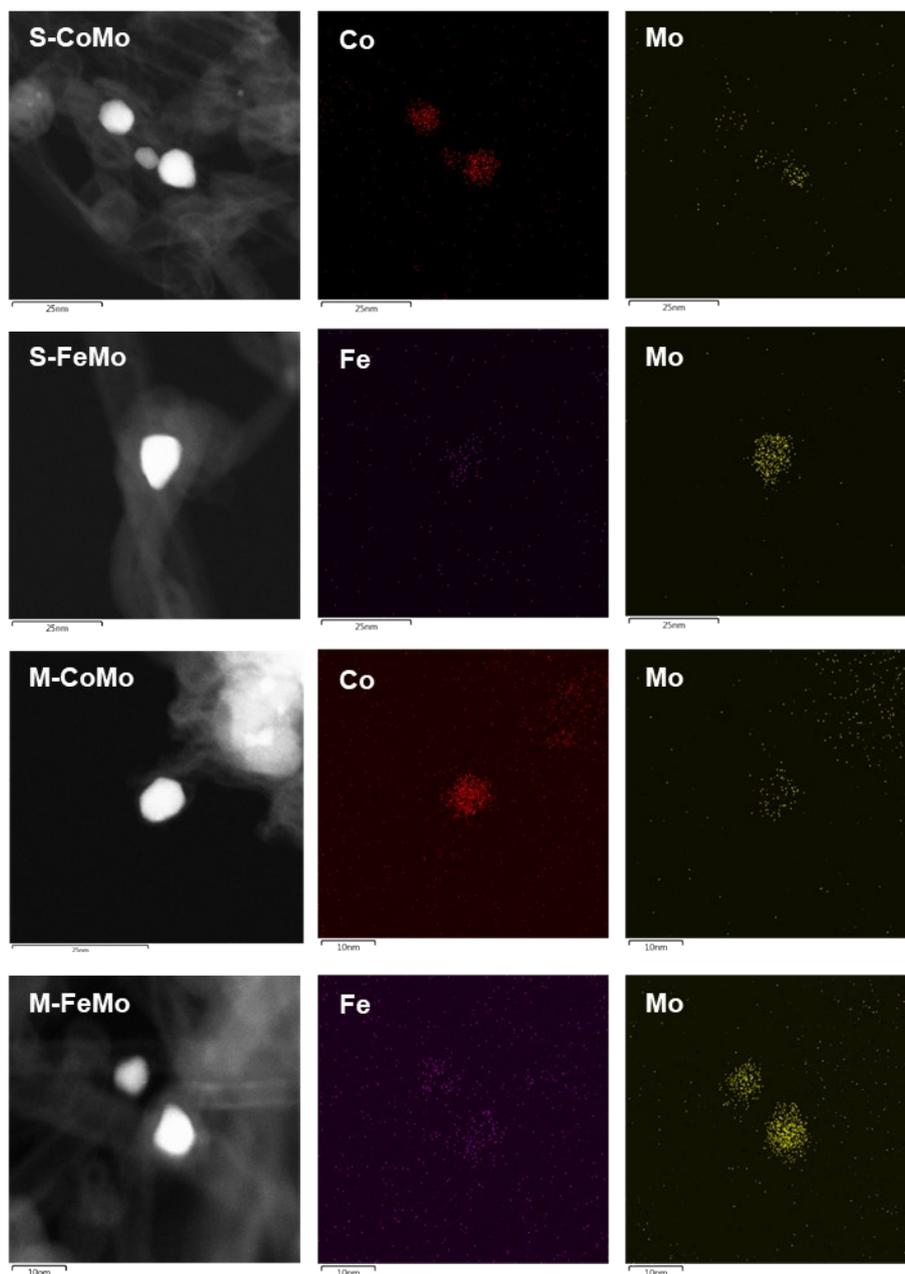
Fig. S2. Product yields of SRF and mask waste after pyrolysis at 800 °C.



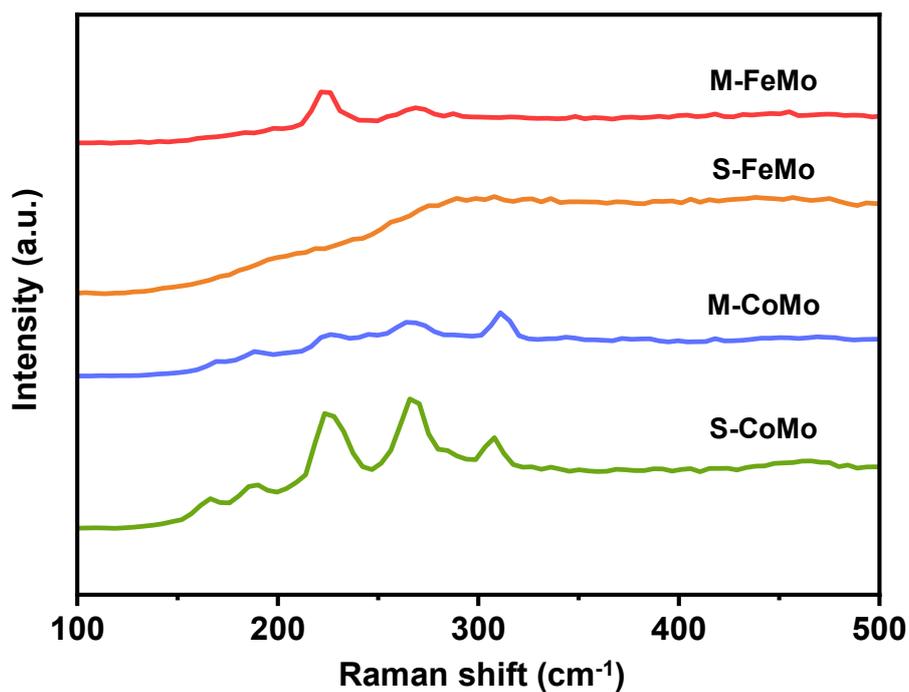
**Fig. S3.** SEM images of the as-prepared (a) CoMo/MgO and (b) FeMo/MgO catalysts.



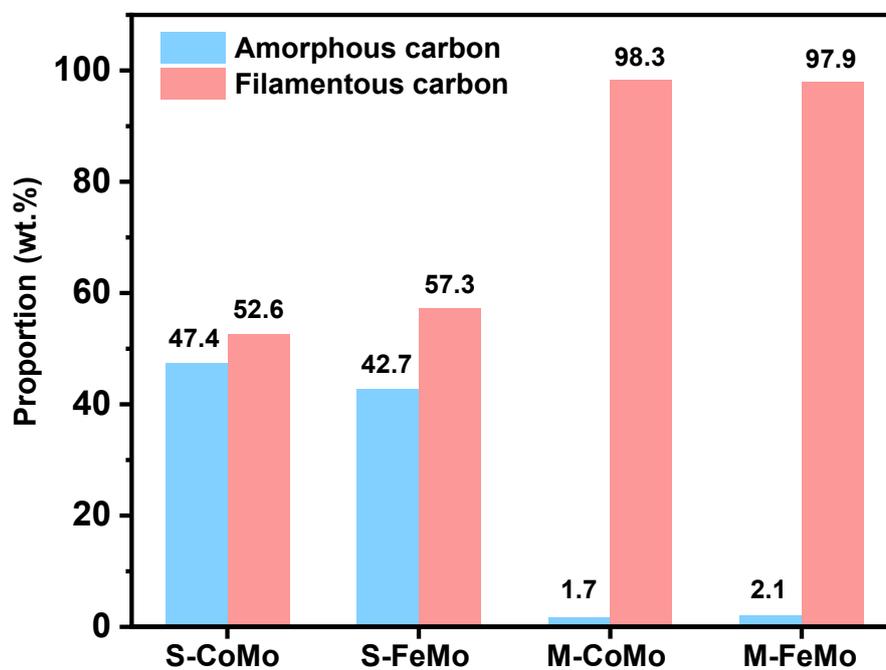
**Fig. S4.** XRD patterns of the as-prepared CoMo/MgO and FeMo/MgO catalysts.



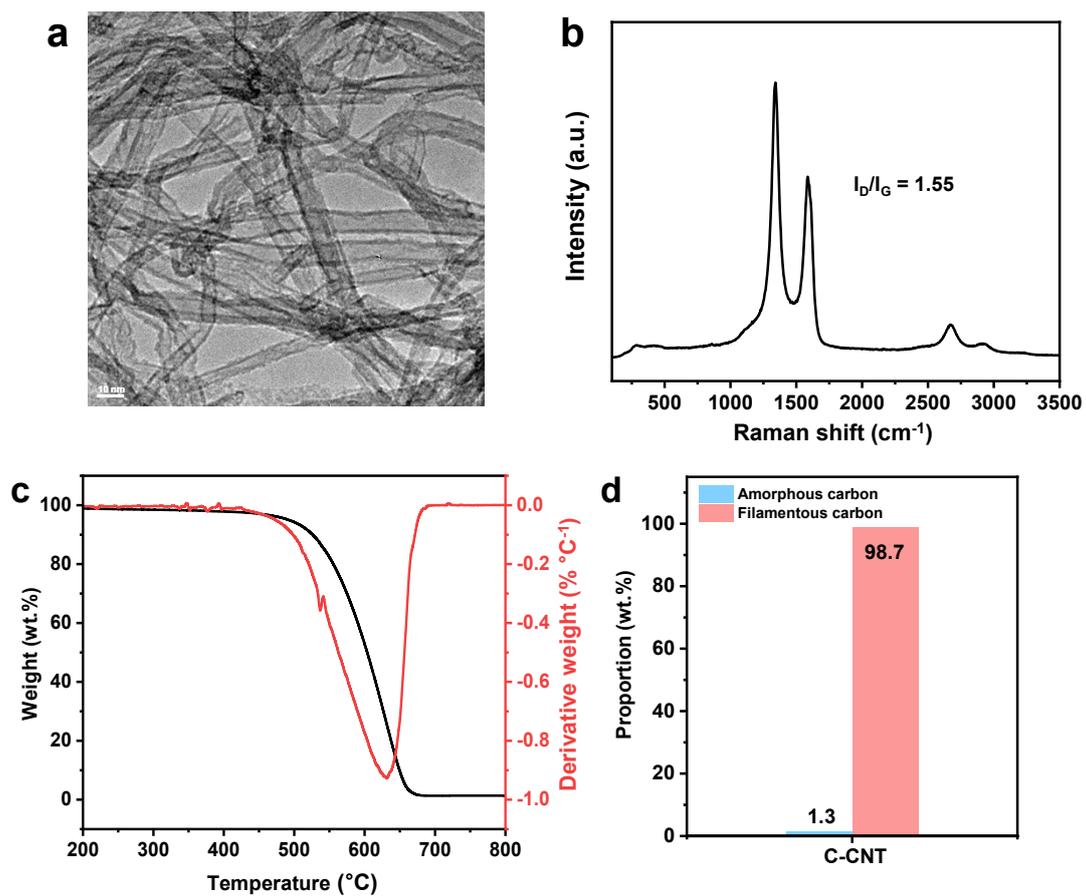
**Fig. S5.** HAADF-STEM and EDS mapping images of the spent catalysts (S-CoMo, S-FeMo, M-CoMo, and M-FeMo) after CVD.



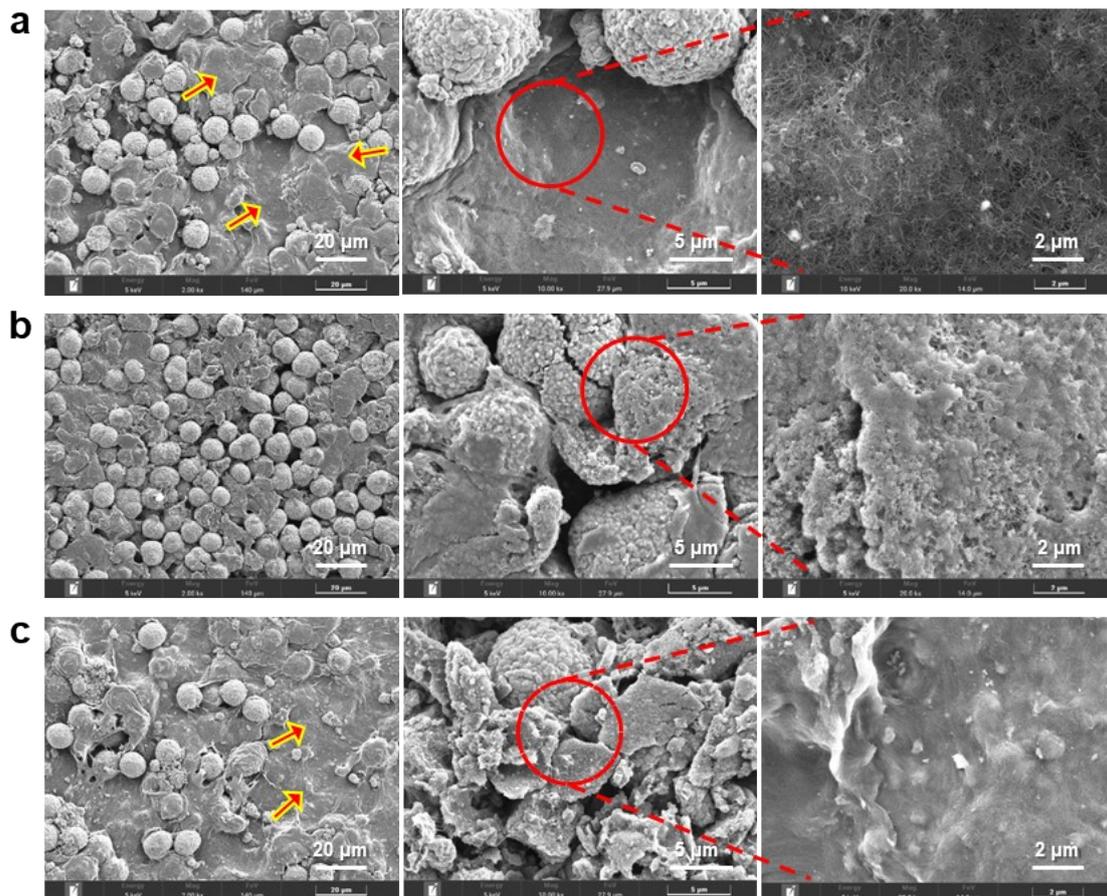
**Fig. S6.** Low-frequency Raman spectra of the plastic-derived CNTs on the spent catalysts.



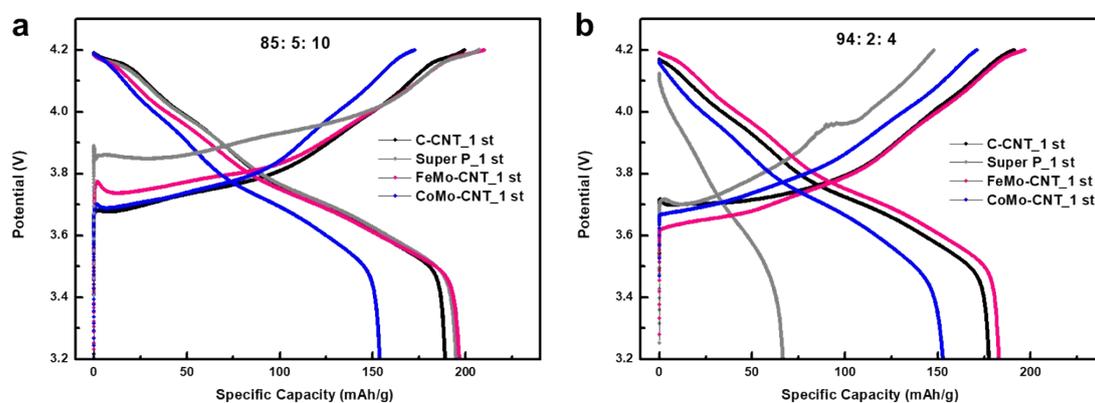
**Fig. S7.** Mass ratios of amorphous carbon and filamentous carbon in the spent catalysts calculated using the TPO and derivative TPO profiles.



**Fig. S8.** (a) TEM image, (b) Raman spectrum, (c) TPO and derivative TPO profiles, and (d) mass ratios of the amorphous and filamentous carbon in commercial CNTs (C-CNTs).



**Fig. S9.** SEM images of the electrode surfaces with the different types of CNTs: (a) C-CNT, (b) FeMo-CNT, and (c) CoMo-CNT.



**Fig. S10.** First discharge-charge profiles at 0.1 C of each electrode at ratios of (a) 85 : 5 : 10 and (b) 94 : 2 : 4.

**Table S1.** Results of the ultimate and proximate analyses of masks and SRF (dry basis).

Feedstock	Ultimate analysis (wt.%)						Proximate analysis (wt.%)			
	C	H	O <sup>a</sup>	N	S	Cl	Volatiles	Moisture	Ash	Fixed carbon
Masks	79.1–	12.2–	5.8–	0.5–	0	0	87.2–	0.3–	0.5–	10.4–
	80.7	12.4	7.3	0.7			88.8	0.5	0.8	11.0
SRF	57.9–	7.3–	21.5–	0.2–	0–	0.3–	81.0–	4.1–	8.6–	3.7–
	61.4	8.0	24.8	0.3	0.1	0.5	84.3	4.6	9.2	4.0

<sup>a</sup>Calculated as  $[O] = 100\% - \{[C] + [H] + [N] + [S] + [\text{ash}]\}$ .

**Table S2.** Composition of gas (vol.%) obtained by pyrolysis of the mask waste and SRF.

Components	Mask gas	SRF gas
CH <sub>4</sub>	4.62–4.63	1.76–1.79
C <sub>2</sub> H <sub>4</sub>	4.04–4.07	1.47–1.51
C <sub>2</sub> H <sub>2</sub>	0.09–0.10	0.08
C <sub>2</sub> H <sub>6</sub>	0.33–0.35	0.11
C <sub>3</sub> H <sub>6</sub> (Propylene)	0.84–0.89	0.20–0.22
C <sub>3</sub> H <sub>8</sub>	0.02	-
C <sub>3</sub> H <sub>4</sub> (Propadiene)	0.03	0.01
C <sub>3</sub> H <sub>4</sub> (Propyne)	0.05	0.01
i-C <sub>4</sub> H <sub>8</sub>	0.12	0.02
C <sub>4</sub> H <sub>8</sub> (1-Butene)	0.21	0.06
C <sub>4</sub> H <sub>8</sub> (trans-2-butene)	0.01	-
C <sub>5</sub> H <sub>10</sub> (1-pentene)	0.08–0.09	0.02
C <sub>5</sub> H <sub>10</sub> (2-methyl-2-butene)	0.03–0.04	0.01
H <sub>2</sub>	2.28–2.29	1.31–1.56
CO	0.96–0.97	1.68–1.73
CO <sub>2</sub>	0.52	1.12–1.14
N <sub>2</sub>	85.65–85.73	91.83–92.11

**Table S3.** Results of elemental analysis using SEM-EDS, surface area, and pore volumes of the as-prepared CoMo/MgO and FeMo/MgO catalysts.

Catalyst	SEM-EDS			$S_{\text{BET}}$ ( $\text{m}^2 \text{g}^{-1}$ )	Pore volume ( $\text{cm}^3 \text{g}^{-1}$ )
	Co (wt.%)	Fe (wt.%)	Mo (wt.%)		
CoMo/MgO	8.8	-	2.9	37.9	0.351
FeMo/MgO	-	2.7	21.1	27.1	0.209

**Table S4.** Effect of catalysts on the composition of pyrolysis gas (vol.%) generated from masks (denoted as “Mask” or “M-”) and SRF (denoted as “SRF” or “S”) on  $\text{N}_2$ -free basis. After CVD was conducted, the type of catalyst (CoMo or FeMo) is given after the hyphen.

Components	Mask	M-CoMo	M-FeMo	SRF	S-CoMo	S-FeMo
$\text{CH}_4$	32.28–32.36	32.82–33.10	17.17–17.47	21.58–22.25	21.66–22.06	17.21–18.10
$\text{C}_2\text{H}_4$	28.34–28.38	8.14–8.20	0.50–0.54	18.03–18.83	7.92–8.07	3.95–4.13
$\text{C}_2\text{H}_2$	0.61–0.67	1.40–1.42	0.01–0.02	0.92–0.98	1.49–1.50	0.09–0.12
$\text{C}_2\text{H}_6$	2.29–2.31	0.24–0.26	0.06–0.07	1.35–1.41	0.08–0.10	0.07–0.08
$\text{C}_3\text{H}_6$ (Propylene)	6.04–6.08	0.07–0.08	-	2.52–2.63	0.05	0.02
$\text{C}_3\text{H}_8$	0.13–0.14	-	-	0.05–0.06	-	-
$\text{C}_3\text{H}_4$ (Propadiene)	0.20	0.01	-	0.08–0.09	0.01	-
$\text{C}_3\text{H}_4$ (Propyne)	0.35–0.37	0.02	-	0.15–0.16	0.01–0.02	-
i- $\text{C}_4\text{H}_8$	0.79–0.82	-	-	0.19–0.20	-	-
$\text{C}_4\text{H}_8$ (1-Butene)	1.44–1.46	0.08–0.09	-	0.77–0.81	0.07–0.08	0.02–0.03
$\text{C}_4\text{H}_8$ (trans-2-Butene)	0.03–0.04	-	-	0.02	-	-
$\text{C}_5\text{H}_{10}$ (1-Pentene)	0.58–0.61	0.01–0.02	-	0.27–0.29	-	-
$\text{C}_5\text{H}_{10}$ (2-Methyl-2-butene)	0.23–0.25	-	-	0.08–0.09	-	-
$\text{H}_2$	15.93–16.04	45.50–46.52	69.83–70.31	16.56–19.06	35.58–36.81	40.63–42.53
CO	6.70–6.73	7.96–7.99	11.09–11.26	20.97–21.48	23.78–25.52	34.26–35.08
$\text{CO}_2$	3.61–3.68	2.70–3.33	0.79–0.87	13.92–14.24	7.51–7.55	1.84–1.85

**Table S5.** Characteristics of the mask-derived and commercial CNTs and commercial carbon black.

Sample	Average diameter (nm)	$I_D/I_G$ ratio	CNT purity (%)	Surface area ( $m^2 g^{-1}$ )
FeMo-CNT	5.4	0.28	97.9	271.0
CoMo-CNT	3.5	0.27	98.3	207.4
C-CNT	6.1	1.55	98.7	246.8
Super P	-	-	-	63.3

<sup>a</sup> $I_D$  represents the intensity of the D-band in the Raman spectrum.

<sup>b</sup> $I_G$  represents the intensity of the G-band in the Raman spectrum.

**Table S6.** First discharge-charge capacity and initial coulombic efficiency (ICE) of the 85 : 5 : 10 electrodes with different carbon materials.

	First charge capacity ( $mAh g^{-1}$ )	First discharge capacity ( $mAh g^{-1}$ )	ICE (%)
C-CNT	199.7	189.6	94.9
Super P	207.3	195.7	94.4
FeMo-CNT	210.2	197.6	94.0
CoMo-CNT	172.8	154.5	89.4

**Table S7.** First discharge-charge capacity and ICE of the 94 : 2 : 4 electrodes with different carbon materials.

	First charge capacity ( $mAh g^{-1}$ )	First discharge capacity ( $mAh g^{-1}$ )	ICE (%)
C-CNT	191.4	178.8	93.4
Super P	148.0	67.5	45.6
FeMo-CNT	196.9	184.2	93.6
CoMo-CNT	171.2	153.9	89.9