

JOURNAL OF THE CHEMICAL SOCIETY

Chemical Communications

Number 12
1988

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ISSN 0261 2917 1988 Subscription
UK £90.00 USA \$169.00 Rest of World £104.00



730 Liquid nitrogen

Lindsay, W. N. San Jose, CA, USA
Chem. Eng. News 15 Jun 1987, **65** (24), 2.

This letter draws attention to the hazards of liquid nitrogen, with the present excitement about new compounds that become superconductors at liquid nitrogen temperatures. Liquid nitrogen, which boils at -195°C , will, if left exposed to air, condense oxygen, which boils at -183.0°C . The resulting liquid can have strong oxidizing properties, and in the presence of oil or other easily oxidized substances, may react violently. It is advised that Thermos bottles of liquid nitrogen are not left sitting around unused or uncovered.

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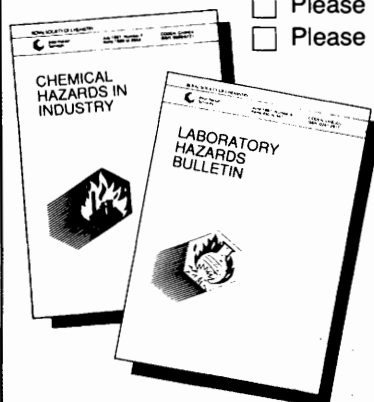
ISSN 0265 5721 1988 Subscription
UK £192.00 USA \$359.00 Rest of World £216.00



2921 Printed circuit board manufactures – fire. *Fire Prev.* June 1987, (200), 38. A report is given of a fire at a printed circuit board manufacturer in Telford, Salop, on 28 Dec 1986. The probable cause was identified as ignition of solvent vapours by a heating element left on during the Xmas holidays.

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