

Chapter 8 Determination of Tinting Strength and Lightening Power, 33 pages, no references. Emphasis is placed on three aspects, quantitative chemical evaluation of the colorant content (dyes and pigments), of formulations, and separation criteria and spectrophotometric determinations of properties such as the relative tinting strength, lightness matching, lightening power and pigment volume concentration values.

The book is concluded by a useful listing of important international standards for testing drawn from ISO, ASTM, BS, NF, JIS and DIN sources. Chapters 1–5 are accompanied by an individual list of symbols used in formulae, a meaningful summary of the chapter and a short review of historical factors of relevance coupled with bibliographical notes.

The text will fulfil the objectives of the author. However, students will need guidance through some of the more mathematical and conceptual points. It is recommended that this text be read initially in sections and enjoyed, as good non-fiction. On second reading, fuller understanding develops. From this comes the wish to develop concepts, argue and think more deeply about what is written.

This book is recommended for all those who are interested in industrial colour testing. Never mind the price, enjoy the quality?

J. T. Guthrie

Encyclopedia of Spectroscopy. By H.-H. Perkampus. VCH, Weinheim, Germany, 1995. 669 pp. ISBN 3-527-29281-0. Price: DM148.

This text is designed to provide an introduction to spectroscopic techniques for a non-specialist audience, particularly scientists and students who may be considering the application of spectroscopy to problem-solving.

The concept of such an encyclopedia, which embraces spectroscopic techniques, apparatus, instrumentation, definitions and principles, is an interesting one; to maintain such a book to a reasonable size is also commendable. The individual entries are of a very different scope and standard; some examples of excellent descriptions are provided by Mössbauer spectroscopy, Mie scattering, Kerr effect, photoacoustic spectroscopy and polarized light. In contrast, other entries such as those for near-infrared spectroscopy, Raman spectroscopy and normal coordinate analysis are perhaps rather too brief.

The book succeeds in the ready provision of information about spectroscopic instrumentation, effects and definitions which otherwise might require considerable searching of literature; an advantage of such a

text is immediately apparent in that the reader new to the subject of their quest is not faced with a dissection of advanced texts to derive the information received. Hence, the operational principles of say a Nd/YAG laser or a Glan-Thompson prism are found succinctly expressed in this work.

However, the reviewer feels that the good points of this text (and there are several of these) must be offset by a problem which will undoubtedly be faced by readers new to spectroscopy, the audience for which the book is intended. This concerns the *application* of the techniques to specific problems; although newcomers to a particular branch of spectroscopy will find help in understanding the operational modes of their instrumentation from this book, they will not find assistance in the application of these techniques.

On balance, this is a text which certainly has a place in a practising spectroscopist's library and for general consultation by newcomers to the field. However, for details of applications of the techniques, guidance should be sought elsewhere.

H. G. M. Edwards