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Preface

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Preface

This volume contains the collected plenary and sectional plenary papers presented at the First International Symposium on Polymer Materials with Low Flammability, held from September 25–27, 1990 at the Institute of Chemical Sciences (Alma-Ata-City) of the Kazakhstan Academy of Sciences, Russia, under joint collaboration of the Russian Academy of Sciences, Scientific Council on Synthetic Materials (Moscow), Scientific Council on Theoretical Justification of Combustion (Moscow), Institute of Synthetic Polymer Materials (Moscow), and the Presidium of the Kazakhstan Academy of Sciences (Alma-Ata).

The symposium was attended by 500 scientists from 10 countries and 100 research institutes and universities associated not only with the Russian Academy of Sciences, but also with Institutes of High Education, and of chemical, petrochemical, and light industries.

The nine papers collected for this issue are concerned with physics, chemistry and engineering, presented in an understandable cohesive manner. This volume also makes available a large amount of Russian literature on these and related subjects that previously had not been readily available to many scientists.

Much remains to be done to improve the flammability behavior of many polymeric materials. Such difficult problems will be solved only by multidisciplinary studies capable of taking a broader and less parochial view. The approach of these present authors is a step in the right direction.

This is certainly a universal problem area where future cooperative international efforts should be considered.

This volume is intended for a wide range of specialists in the chemistry and physics of polymers, as well as in the technology of polymer materials, namely, for researchers, engineers, technologists, postgraduates, and undergraduate students.

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