

## Book Review

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### *Magnetism in the Nineties*

by A. J. Freeman and K. A. Gschneidner, Jr., (eds.), published by North-Holland, Amsterdam, 1991, ~490 pp., US\$ 87.00. ISBN 0-444-89357-1.

The commemorative 100th volume of the *Journal of Magnetism and Magnetic Materials*, issued in book form under the title "*Magnetism in the Nineties*", gives an impressive overview of the most interesting developments in magnetism during the first 15 years of the journal's existence. An international forum of experts, affiliated to university institutes as well as to industries, has contributed to this issue. In selecting the topics the Editors have found a good balance between fundamental and more technological topics, and between theoretical and experimental advances in the field. The authors have successfully attempted to write their articles for non-experts, without forgetting to present a detailed discussion of the most important results. The reader is informed about the state-of-the-art in the subjects covered, including the many challenging unresolved questions.

Reading this book is especially pleasant because most authors have placed their topic in its historical context by giving an overview of the developments during the past 15 years, or sometimes even earlier. The book shows that magnetism is a very active field of research which has resulted in some technologically very important materials. The review papers on technologically almost mature materials, for example rare earth cobalt permanent magnets, demonstrate the wide variety of fundamental physics and materials science aspects which play a role in realizing an industrial success. Other papers, such as the paper on magnetic multilayers, report on recent developments in booming fields. These papers provide the perspective that the exciting developments which have taken place during the past 15 years will be followed by equally exciting new discoveries and developments in the nineties.

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