

**Modern Plastics Encyclopedia for 1968-69**, Volume 45: No. 14A, October, 1968, McGraw-Hill Inc., New York, New York 10036

The 1968 edition of *Modern Plastics Encyclopedia* is an excellent collection of polymer physical properties, engineering, and design data. This information should be an invaluable aid to both the research and development chemist and engineer.

The first section of the book, "A Guide to Plastics," gives a general review of the state of the art with discussion of engineering, design, new data, and other similar topics. One new section added to this portion of the Encyclopedia is long-term creep data. This data should serve the plastic industry well in the area of product screening for the designing of parts which will be expected to carry loads for long periods of time.

The remainder of the Encyclopedia is divided into sections, for example, "Resins and Molding Compounds," "Foamed Plastics," "Chemicals and Additives," "Film Sheeting and Shapes," "Fabricating and Finishing," and "Machinery and Methods." Each of the sections is divided into sub-sections which discuss the referenced material or process in some depth.

There is, however, one major failing of this book which has also been common to past editions. The index, although bulky, is poorly organized and cross-referenced. Therefore, one must often resort to leafing through the Encyclopedia in search of desired information.

In summary, the information necessary for product evaluation, design, and engineering of commercial polymers and processes is made available in this encyclopedia. However, because of its index system, the retrieval of data may be somewhat time consuming.

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