

the shortest (79 pages) chapters in the book. What is there is good, the material being divided into three subsections: (1) implosion and similar hazards, (2) explosion hazards, (3) fire hazards. Coupled with section 6.2 on chemical hazards (15 pages), King does a reasonably good job of overviewing the problems of the chemical industry in this field. But much more could have been written in this area. And, being aware of author's background and the quality of both, one could hope he would author a complete text on safety in the chemical industry.

In conclusion, I did browse through the book as suggested, shopping around to find sections of interests. I found many — all interesting and informative. And, although the book does not concentrate on the chemical industry, there is so much material applicable to it that I feel the book is a must for any safety engineer specializing in the chemical field.

GARY F. BENNETT

*Contact Guide to Specialists in Toxic Substances.* World Environment Center, New York, 1980, 174 pages.

This is a handbook for science journalists, environmental writers and regular beat reporters who need to know as much as possible, as quickly as possible, about poisonous substances and their effects. It is not a book of factual material, but rather is a guide to expertise — i.e. the names of specialists in fields related to toxic substances.

There are two main sections to the book:

- (1) By topic — with the specialists in each area named.
- (2) By specialty (alphabetical order) giving the expert's title, affiliation, address, telephone number and professional profile.

One of the areas, for which experts are provided, deals with the transportation of hazardous substances and spills thereof. In this area some truly knowledgeable people are listed — however most of those listed are neither known to this writer nor to the media person, who not knowing the depth of his resource expert's experience in "spills" will not be certain of his expert's knowledge or ability — and hence the book's major drawback.

GARY F. BENNETT

*Hazardous Materials — 1980 Emergency Response Book*, DOT-58002 (1980), Materials Transportation Bureau, Research and Special Programs Administration, US Department of Transportation, Washington, D.C. 20560, 140 pages (Free).

This handy manual (with a brilliant orange cover) is a thorough revision of DOT's earlier (1978) response guide (in livid red) and is a "must" for anyone

who will have to deal with hazardous material spills. At the front of the book, one is given an example of shipping papers and shown how to find the chemical name, classification and United Nations identification number. This information (on the inside cover) is followed by guidebook use directions, CHEMTREC's telephone number and how to use it.

The first major section lists chemicals in numerical order based on their UN ID Numbers; for each chemical an action guide (action guide gives information pertinent to groups of chemicals) number is given, plus the chemical name (corresponding to the UN number). Chemicals listed in this first section, the book notes, in **BOLD ORANGE**, "may require isolation or evacuation of the spill area"; e.g. ammonia is so listed. The second section of the book lists chemicals alphabetically by name with corresponding action guide and UN numbers given.

There are 66 Action Guides, for groups of chemicals, each giving the potential hazards for: (1) fire or explosion, and (2) health hazards. Emergency action information of the following type is also given in each "guide": (1) what to do in case of a fire (large or small), (2) spill or leak (large or small) and (3) first aid.

The last section of the book contains evacuation tables with recommended distances for removal of people from the spill area during the initial phase of an accident involving volatile hazardous liquids or gases shipped in bulk or multiple container loads.

In context and design, this U.S. government book is very similar to the Government of Canada's 1979 Emergency Response Guide for Dangerous Goods, published by the Ministry of Supply and Services.

GARY F. BENNETT

*Loss Prevention in the Process Industries*, by Frank P. Lees, Butterworth & Co., London, two volumes, 1316 pp., 1980, £ 37.50 each volume.

Recent disasters at Flixborough and Seveso have, by the very scale of the losses and the immediacy of communication, brought to the attention of the public the potential hazards of modern technological processes. Losses on this scale have always been associated with industry and engineering and have been dealt with and ameliorated by competent and dedicated engineers as and when social conditions have permitted. It is only recently, however, that Loss Prevention has been studied as a subject in its own right.

The processing industries are indebted to Professor Lees for bringing together between these four covers a comprehensive account of the development and present status of the subject. Professor Lees himself has made significant contributions in the field and is well known as a speaker and educator. This book reflects his experience and amply satisfies the criteria which he set himself i.e. to produce "a balanced and integrated text which presents the