Hazardous Chemicals Data Book. by G. Weiss (Ed.). Noyes Data Corporation, Park Ridge, N.J., (November 1980), pp. 1188, $64.

One of the most useful books for emergency spill response situations I have in my library is the U.S. Coast Guard's CHRIS (Chemical Hazard Response Information System) Hazardous Chemical Data Manual. For chemical emergencies, it yields easy-to-read, quick-to-find information on approximately 900 hazardous chemicals. The CHRIS Manual is, in my opinion, without equal as a source of information on: labels, chemical designation, manufacturers, shipping information, observable chemical features, reactivity and physical and chemical properties (molecular weight, heat of combustion, heat of solution, specific gravity, etc.), response to fire, human exposure, water pollution, health hazards and appropriate safety equipment, etc.

Noyes Data Corporation has reproduced the CHRIS data sheets (volume 1 of the CHRIS Manual) — these sheets contain the written information, as noted above. Noyes has not, however, reproduced the second section of the CHRIS Manual with plots of viscosity, heat capacity, etc. vs. temperature.

In a second, smaller section of the book, approximately 450 Materials Safety Data Sheets from "The Basis for Control of Toxic Chemicals", by Ketcham and Porter of Oak Ridge National Laboratory, have been provided. There is no perceptible overlap with the first section for these are lesser-known materials (the CHRIS Handbook treats the 900 most important commercial hazardous materials). Presented are data on: hazardous ingredients, physical data, fire and explosion hazards, health hazards, reactivity, spills or leak procedures, spill and protection equipment, etc.

In the two combined sections, the book has information on 1300 hazardous chemicals — a very valuable reference to have on one's shelf.

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Directory of Pollution Control Equipment Companies in Western Europe, 3rd Edition (1980) European Directories, Inter Company Comparisons Ltd., City Road, London. 588 pp, index and alphabetical lists. Price £30, soft cover.

The directory is an updated version of the last edition published in 1977. Information is contained on 6,000 firms from 17 European countries including the EEC, Scandinavia, the Iberian peninsula, Switzerland, Austria and Greece. The firms are listed alphabetically by country and each company entry gives the name, address, telephone and telex number, chief executive, some sales figures and a description of the product or services offered. Only a few companies have published their sales figures.