

Risks, and Overview. The meeting was international in scope and attendance, and it is very clear that the organisers have their finger on the pulse of this very wide field. Some of the papers were lighter than others, but there is a wealth of pertinent reference material in all of them. The material on perception of risk was very illuminating, reporting results of actual studies in the field. This will be salutary reading for anyone who believes that the public perception of risk is readily characterised.

Of more immediate interest to those who operate industrial plant will be the paper by David Okrent, who describes a regulatory proposal put to the U.S.N.R.C. by the U.S. Advisory Committee on Reactor Safeguards. This proposal consists of a quantified scheme of regulatory control in terms of the frequency of occurrence of specified hazard states in the reactor, limits on the risk of death to individuals and on the risk of multiple-fatality accidents, and cost-effectiveness criteria for impact reduction in terms of deaths averted. Although directed towards nuclear installations, the overall approach clearly has far-reaching implications which merit widespread consideration.

There are now several books available that consist of collected papers from conferences on risk. This is one of the most substantial.

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*Waste Management; Planning, Evaluation, Technologies*, by D.C. Wilson, Oxford University Press, 1981, 530 pp., £45 hardback

This thorough book is the result of many years work in the field of waste management. The author clearly knows his material very well, and takes a comprehensive approach to the subject that is both practical and scholarly, a rare combination. Part 1 deals with Planning and Evaluation in Waste Management, including the topics of Planning, Strategy Evaluation, Economics, Costs of Transport, Diseconomies, Uncertainty, Resources Recovery, and A Systems Approach. Part 2 concerns The Technology of Waste Management, including Critical Evaluation of Technologies, Landfill, Treatment prior to Landfill, Incineration, Physical Separation, Refuse-derived Fuels, Wet Pulping, Thermal Processes, Biological Processes, Hazardous Wastes, and a discussion of the state of the art in waste management technology. The book is well indexed and referenced, and deserves a place on the shelves of anyone working in this field.

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