

Monoclonal antibody applications are itemized, and cardiac pacemakers described. Radiation protection and control are covered, with 12 references, 3 of which are from 1982-83.

The major section of the volume is the reference to approximately 20,000 materials, in alphabetical order, covering 2603 pages. This is supplemented with a synonym index with nearly 50,000 entries, and a code for the 2000 references. From A-200 Pyrinate to ZZL-0810, each entry is accompanied by identification numbers, molecular formula, molecular weight, synonyms, toxicity data, disaster hazard, flammability data, and fire extinguishing agents where known. We salute this effort, which doubtlessly will be of considerable use, but we question the inclusion of all the toxicity references from the NIOSH RTEC, which is now available on a quarterly basis on microfilm and hence more up-to-date. A selection indicating the ranges of toxic effects would have reduced much of the volume of the book. Care must be taken in reading such statements as "aniline is a common air contaminant" (page 281), or, in describing polychlorinated biphenyls, "when heated to decomposition, it emits tox fumes of Cl<sup>-</sup>" (page 2251), so that such oversimplifications are not recorded as absolute facts without full references.

The volume will doubtlessly be of value, especially if backed with on-line computerized data bases of current vogue.

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*How to Plan an Effective Employee Hazard Communication Program and Safety Data Sheet and Label Program for "Right-to-Know" Regulations*, by Charles J. O'Connor and Jay A. Young, edited by L.W. Bieriein, Labelmaster, 5724 N. Pulaski Road, Chigago, IL 60646, 1984, paperback, 18 pages text plus 68 pages reprint from *Federal Register*, no index or illustrations, \$35.00.

In a day when "deregulation" is the theme, it is unfortunate that the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) of the U.S. Department of Labor would issue a final rule on a regulation that does not clearly and simply state its intent. Unfortunately, the 68 pages of the *Federal Register* for November 25, 1983 (pages 53280-53348) on Hazard Communication under CFR 29.1910.1200 is a performance-oriented regulation which requires more than a casual reading for even technical personnel to understand and, hopefully, comply. The introduction to this booklet by lawyer Bieriein attempts to explain the "why"; the remaining 15 pages by two chemical experts, Professor Young and Dr. O'Connor, try to bring the text of the regulation into focus in layman's terms. Essentially, the regulation requires manufacturing industries covered by Standard Industrial Classification 20 through 39 to establish a hazard communication

program with employees so that employees are properly informed as to the hazards of the substances with which they work. The intent is to have a three-tier approach: all incoming chemicals and related materials must be properly labeled as to hazard potential; all materials on the workplace area must have Material Safety Data Sheets (MSDSs) available for all employees to see; and orientation be given so that employees understand the significance of the above. Full compliance is required in 30 months from November 25, 1983.

It should be noted at this time that the Federal OSHA regulation is but one of many "Right-to-Know" laws, several at the state level and some at larger cities such as New York, Philadelphia, and Cincinnati. (For more information on the status of these laws see *Speer's Digest of Toxic Substances State Law 1983-84*, published by Strategic Assessments, Inc., 5000 Butte St., Suite 132, Boulder, CO 80301.) The Labelmaster booklet is a "quick-fix" for anyone too busy to read the full text of the federal OSHA regulation, which occupies most of the booklet.

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