

Improving Safety in the Chemical Laboratory: A Practical Guide, edited by Jay A. Young, Wiley/Interscience, New York, 1987, ISBN 0-471-84693-7, 350 pages, \$45.00

This volume is dedicated to the premise that chemical health and safety can be improved in the chemical laboratory if all chemists and engineers, including those who ultimately assume the management roles, are to carry out the long-awaited and needed reforms in the chemical and related activities.

With the input from eighteen other co-authors, whose contributions range over the whole topic of laboratory safety in the context of the impending regulations of OSHA in the United States specifically aimed at increasing safety in the laboratory, Professor Jay Young, a distinguished educator and chemical consultant, has assembled and co-authored a "how-to" which is of relevance and value to chemists in the laboratory and at all levels of management. Topics ranging from hazard communication, fires, reactivity, toxicity, facilities such as laboratory hoods and other equipment necessary to safely conduct laboratory work, and the role of human factors in emergency situations are covered in much detail.

We have suggested to the editor that, in the second edition which doubtlessly will appear, additional references and citations would be in order. A more complete discussion of cryogenics (including liquid hydrogen, for example), a definitive treatment of respiratory protective devices, and an upgraded list of hazardous chemicals with current TLV-TWA and C limits would be appropriate. This book is a valuable addition to the literature, and doubtlessly will receive wide acceptance.

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