

Proceedings of the 43rd Industrial Waste Conference, Lewis Publishers, Chelsea, MI, 1989, ISBN No. 0-87371-205-6, 863 pp., \$89.95.

Held annually at Purdue University at Lafayette, Indiana, since 1944, this conference and the attendant proceedings are recognized as one of the best (if not the best, in this reviewer's estimate) wastewater conferences in the country. This reviewer is fortunate to have almost the complete series of conference proceedings. In recent years, the conference attendees have heard papers on hazardous waste, in addition to wastewater treatment, which was the original conference topic.

This volume contains 89 papers divided into 18 major chapters. Several of those 18 categories involve the hazardous waste treatment and disposal area.

Toxic and hazardous wastes	- 7 papers
Site remediation	- 7 papers
Landfill - general	- 7 papers
- leachate	- 5 papers
-general	- 4 papers

Also of interest to readers of this journal are papers on waste auditing, plating wastewater sludge treatment and disposal and waste minimization. The proceedings have a most useful Author/Subject Index that covers the last ten years.

GARY F. BENNETT

Asbestos Engineering, Management and Control, by K.F. Cherry, Lewis Publishers, Chelsea, MI, 1984, ISBN No. 0-87371-110-6, 265 pp., \$49.95.

Among the many feared chemicals facing society today (PCB, dioxin, etc.), asbestos is of major concern because of its cancer-causing potential. Its past ubiquitous use in buildings in a variety of ways enhances the public's concern, especially when these buildings house children. And so asbestos removal from schools heads the list of remedial projects - but not exclusively, for wherever asbestos is found (ceilings, pipes, etc.) and is found to be friable, removal programs are almost always initiated. Thus, the book is very timely.

Covered, according to the press release accompanying my review copy, are: the current uses of asbestos; engineering aspects; establishing an O&M program; the building survey; the contractor's view of a project; sample specifications; work practices for removal programs; health and safety regulations; cost estimates; legal aspects and insurance; and the Asbestos Hazard Emergency Response Act.

It appears there is a lot of useful material in the book. Not being an expert on the subject of asbestos and its removal, I am not able to judge how good the

material is, but I am an editor and am cognizant of good writing practice. Unfortunately, I find the book is not well written. The author switches topics in main stream, uses non-descriptive headings for some chapters and gives incomplete references (including references to his own unpublished lecture notes, which are a non-reference). Those problems, coupled with a lack of good introduction to several chapters and not moving from the general to the specific, made me wish a good technical editor had gone over the book before publication.

GARY F. BENNETT

Sara Title III Law and Regulations: A Handbook Covering the Emergency Planning and Community Right-to-Know Act, by J.G. Arbuckle, T.A. Vanderver, Jr. and P.J. Wilson, Jr., Government Institutes Inc., Rockville, MD, 3rd edn., 1989, ISBN No. 0-86487-760-2, 305 pp., \$59.

In the prologue to this most excellent book, the authors write:

“Two years have passed since President Reagan signed into law the Emergency Planning and Community Right-to-Know Act of 1989: During that time, the (U.S.) Environmental Protection Agency has promulgated regulations necessary to implement the reporting mandates of the statutes at the same time the industries covered by the Act have had to confront, at least once, each of the reporting obligations of the act.”

The obligations require reporting of the usage and/or storage of a broad list of the hazardous materials (chemicals) that could cause harmful health effects if released accidentally. Another reporting requirement for each industry is to calculate and report the amounts of annual releases of another list of potentially toxic chemicals. Thus the act addresses (and requires reports on): (1) acute releases and (2) chronic releases of chemicals.

The latter reports of (cumulative summation of) nationwide amounts of chronic releases of toxic chemicals have just reached the popular media in the United States. The numbers are big: 2.4 billion pounds of toxic chemicals are emitted annually by industries in the United States. And the public (media) response is as expected: a call for laws to reduce those chemical emission rates.

This book, like the great majority of Government Institutes publications I have read, concisely and thoroughly, but best of all “understandingly”, sets out the elements of the law described in the title of the book. But more importantly, the authors tell how to comply with the law.

In that context, I would like to commend Government Institutes, through the medium of this review, for publishing the most useful and most used books on my bookshelves. Being, as I am, vice-chairman of our county’s local Emergency Planning Committee, I often turn to this book (and other Government Institute’s publications) for information.

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