

with toxic chemicals and explosives. However, there is very little of interest to the typical chemical plant designer or operator.

The first section, containing 7 papers, has overview papers on both blast pressure effects and fragmentation effects. They review the effects of energy releases from explosions of high explosive materials. The literature cited reads like a typical history book, with inclusion of references, such as the British Ordnance Board Minutes from 1915 or reports of various military organizations over the past 50 years. As such it would be of most interest to defense contractors or others involved with munitions facilities. Other papers deal with design of storage structures, including reinforced concrete and glazing material considerations.

The second section, entitled "Thermal Effects", could more appropriately have been entitled "Design of Munitions Manufacturing Processes". A common problem of reproducing papers as submitted, in book form, is evident from the poor print quality of the paper dealing with remote mixing procedures for pyrotechnic materials. The third section, entitled "Chemical Effects," should have been entitled "Design of Chemical and Toxic Laboratories". The last section is somewhat of a catch-all, with one paper dealing with safe electrical circuits in an explosives facility, while another deals with electrostatic studies at three Army ammunition plants.

The book may be of some value for people designing munitions facilities, but not really for individuals dealing with toxic chemicals.

LESLIE E. LAHTI

Environmental Law Handbook, by J.G. Arbuckle, M.E. Bosco, D.R. Case, E.P. Laws, J.C. Martin, M.L. Miller, R.V. Randle, R.G. Stoll, E.P. Sullivan, T.A. Vanderver Jr. and P.A. Wilson, Government Institutes, Rockville, MD, 1989, 10th edn., ISBN 0-86587-766-1, 66 pp., \$59.95.

"Ever-changing" and "ever-expanding" are two appropriate phrases to describe the annual *Environmental Law Handbook* published by Government Institutes. As in previous editions of this handbook, the attorneys (eleven, in all, authored this volume) begin with a discussion of the fundamentals of the law and then follow this with a section on enforcement and liabilities. Those two sections encompass the first 75 pages of the text.

Following the basics are eleven chapters, each dealing with specific laws. The authors begin with CERCLA (Superfund) and then follow with a subset of the 1986 Reauthorization of this law, the Emergency Planning and Community Right to Know Act. I might note here that Government Institutes has single volumes devoted to the foregoing act and many of the other laws covered in

this book, and they deal with the material in greater detail than here. The book mainly confines itself to the presentation of the law itself and details an interpretation of it. The Federal environmental laws discussed in detail are as follows:

- Toxic Substances Control Act
- Occupational Safety and Health Act
- Safe Drinking Water Act
- National Environmental Policy Act
- Resource Conservation and Recovery Act

A less focussed approach (an introduction to each section gives a philosophical appreciation with historical perspective of the topic) has been used for water pollution control, air pollution control, pesticides, noise, asbestos and underground storage tanks.

The latter two topics (asbestos and underground storage tanks) are new additions to this volume. USTs are regulated by RCRA and its amendments. They are clearly identified problems and it is appropriate that separate chapters are devoted to them and to hazardous wastes, as regulatory programs are gearing up in both areas. The authors are to be commended for the excellent coverage of older laws, but more importantly for the timely coverage of new ones.

GARY F. BENNETT

Hazardous Materials Emergency Responses Pocket Handbook, edited by P.N. Cheremisinoff, Technomic Publishing Co., Lancaster, PA, 1989, ISBN 0-87762-631-6, 161 pages, \$39.00.

While this book's title focussed on **Emergency Response**, the preface says:

"Dangers associated with hazardous wastes can be reduced by educating all workers about the properties of the numerous material with which they may come in contact... The book is intended as a step in providing personnel with knowledge and skills to perform hazardous waste site cleanup work..."

There appears to be a conflict between the title and the purpose expressed in the preface. And indeed there is, but it is the preface that is really wrong and not the title. The author has produced a very useful handbook for first responders, chemical spill cleanup personnel and spill prevention engineers. However, if I were the author, I would remove the word "pocket" from the title as it leads one to believe the book would be a good onsite spill reference; it is not. On the contrary, the value of this book is in preparing spill responders and industrial people in techniques to prevent spills. The book contains some very good material and indeed covers concepts I had not seen in print before. However, there is no cohesive thread to the chapters, which are: