

reader will find the information in varying degrees of difficulty, depending on his or her experience and familiarity with the subject.

CURTIS C. TRAVIS and VICKI GAMBLE

Safe Laboratories, Principles and Practices for Design and Remodeling, edited by P.C. Ashbrook and Malcolm M. Renfrew, Lewis Publishers, Inc., Chelsea, MI, 1991, ISBN 0-87371-200-5, 166 pp., \$49.95 (in North America); (\$59.95 outside).

This vital and often overlooked procedure for the design and reconstruction of laboratories is often a second thought with little attention given to economics or safety.

Two chemists and educators, both with flawless credentials and experience, assembled 22 co-authors to approach the problems. This reviewer is favorably impressed with the volume. The 18 chapters are grouped into five sections, with general classifications as Different Perspectives on Design of Safe Laboratories; Generic Issues Affecting Design of Safe Laboratories; Ventilation and Fume Hoods, Putting Principles into Practice, and Working Together Design Safe Laboratories.

The overall impression is good, but additional references are badly needed (10 of the 18 chapters have no references, although several have photos and drawings of good quality). Several chapters could be expanded, for example, Leslie Bretherick should certainly have written many more than 5 pages. The discussions in Section III, Chapters 9–12 could be coordinated and made less confusing as to what is really required to produce a “safe” fume hood or ventilation system. A paper-back edition would have reduced the price and added to the work’s contribution to the real world.

In summary, this is a useful and informative volume.

HOWARD H. FAWCETT