references cited are generally up to 1988. The same format, for each paper, has been used to typeset the book.

The book includes abbreviations, a glossary and an index. It will be difficult to use the book as a textbook. However, health scientists will find the document informative and useful for their day-to-day work.

ASHOK KUMAR

Environmental Data Bases: Design, Implementation and Maintenance, by Gene Y. Michael, Lewis Publishers Inc., Chelsea, MI, 1991, ISBN 0-87371-422-9, 98 pp., $34.95.

There is a growing need to develop data bases in the environmental field. Data bases are used to identify, to solve and to manage environmental problems. This book concentrates on computerization of environmental data bases.

The book is divided in seven chapters: 1. Introduction, 2. Data requirements, 3. Data base design, 4. Software, 5. Hardware, 6. Other considerations, and 7. Personal references.

Chapter 1 discusses the need to develop data bases and their use in modeling, monitoring and regulatory matters. Chapters 2, 3 and 4 concentrate on basic design, data base terminology and choices of data base management systems. Hardware requirements are given in Chapter 5. Practical questions which arise during the development and operation of a data base are briefly reviewed in Chapters 6 and 7.

The book is useful for those who have no knowledge of computers and data base management system technology. The discussion of major data base projects will be helpful for readers. A list of references may be included in a future edition of the book.

ASHOK KUMAR

Active and Passive Smoking Hazards in the Work Place, by Judith A. Douville, Van Nostrand Reinhold, New York, NY, 1990, ISBN 0-442-00167-3, 221 pp., $29.95.

Everyone talks about restrictions on smoking in the work place. Do you want to get some information on this topic? This book will provide you with some help.

There are seven chapters in the book: 1. Active and passive smoking, 2. Work place hazards of smoking, 3. Employer considerations and workplace smoking, 4. Work place restrictions on smoking: decisions and policy making, 5. Costs

and benefits of programs, 6. Programs for smoking cessation and 7. Program implementation and outcomes. A list of useful references is given at the end of the book. An index is also provided.

The topics are explained very well in each chapter. A description of the problem is given and statements are supported by references. Some data on smoking are compiled in the form of tables. Qualitative aspects of each topic is covered in detail. Emphasis is placed on the health risk due to smoking in the work place. Regulatory aspects are reviewed in depth.

The book will be useful for scientists involved in environmental safety. Others involved in the environmental field can read the book as a starting point. The book can be used as a reference book for environmental health courses.

ASHOK KUMAR

Evaluation of Environmental Data for Regulatory and Impact Assessment, by S. Ramamoorthy and E. Baddaloo, Studies in Environmental Science, Vol. 41, Elsevier, Amsterdam, 1991, ISBN 0-444-88530-7, viii+466 pp. (6 page index included), Dfl. 300 ($150).

This book by two members of the staff of the Environmental Assessment Division, Alberta Environment, Canada, is No. 41 in the Elsevier Studies in Environmental Science Series. An extensive chapter on the analytical techniques currently employed in the detection and quantification of environmental materials also covers the influence physicochemical parameters have on aquatic organisms. However, it then merges into a discussion of methods for testing toxicity, in both aquatic species and mammals, but without a thorough treatment of either topic.

A chapter on the quality of analytical data reports on sample size parameters, quality control programs, quality assessment and detection limits, with illustrations of tests for flagging outliers in sets of analyses. Fate processes, such as sorption–desorption, biological and chemical transformation, etc., which influence toxicity assessment, as well as multi-tier toxicity testing, mutagenicity, hazard assessment strategy and various types of tests are discussed.

There is extensive coverage of scoring systems, especially those used by the Canadian government, to evaluate chemicals for testing, along with an explanation of the various parameters, namely exposure, volume of use, release to the environment, degradation in air, soil or water, and bioconcentration which determine the score. This leads to a description of the decision tree used to place chemicals in the testing hierarchy, with special emphasis on physicochemical processes which affect the level of exposure.

A chapter on hazard evaluation also covers ecological and, to a small extent,