

The selection of authors to the volume reflects many different viewpoints, supplemented by detailed references. Photographs could have been more frequent, and the hazards of liquid hydrogen (which this reviewer believes to be highly dangerous) could have been better presented. Much attention is given to laboratory hoods; as well as monitoring procedures and devices for checking the laboratory air. Fire prevention and control, including fire toxicity, receive reasonable but not extensive treatment. In general, the volume is excellent and deserves serious reference on a frequent basis if the dream of hazard-free laboratories is to be approached. It is highly recommended.

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Firefighter's Hazardous Materials Reference Book, by Daniel J. Davis and Grant T. Christianson, Van Nostrand Reinhold, New York, NY, 1991, ISBN 0-442-00377-3, 910 pp. \$119.95 (plus tax and shipping)

The title suggests a vitally needed subject, but this volume does not, in the opinion of this reviewer, adequately cover the subject. Each chemical or material is given a page in the main section, totalling 874 listings. A few of these are duplicated under slightly different names, such as, for example, carbon bisulfide (page 170) and carbon disulfide (page 172) with slightly different recommendations. The large number of "n/as" are difficult to understand, since most of the desired data are available in other publications and well-known chemical references. The few literature citations cited are woefully inadequate. The DOT number index is useful to the extent one can rely on DOT for completeness and accuracy. In the Synonym Index (pages 893-910) a well-intended but misleading modification of a chemical name to facilitate the listing for simplicity, as for example, "ethyl acetate" into "acetic acid, ethyl ester", has resulted in ten notations in front of ten different acetates. This could be very confusing, especially when it is as common as "acetic acid" acetates, and all are well recognized by their correct chemical names.

This reviewer suggests that the volume be thoroughly re-edited and all data checked to avoid most of the n/a's. To the average firefighter, this volume could be misleading, especially when consulted in a "real world" emergency.

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