

The phenomenon of risk perception is a complex issue; the present book attempts to bring together different perspectives of risk and to offer the reader aids to restructuring and assessing the vast and loosely defined field of 'risk perception'. The authors have also attempted to present the topic of international risk perception in a unique, interesting fashion; we highly recommend this informative, well-written, and enlightening text.

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In Situ Thermal Technologies for Site Remediation, by Lawrence A. Smith and Robert E. Hinchee, Battelle Memorial Institute, 209 pages, ISBN 0-87371-604-3

This short and clearly written book provides an overview of various thermal technologies available for in situ soil remediation. In situ soil heating can be conducted in a variety of different ways (steam injection, radio frequency, joule resistance, surface modifications, and other miscellaneous technologies), and each method is discussed fully in subsequent chapters in the text.

The authors, through use of definitions and comparisons, define and describe the various uses of in situ thermal technologies. The book discusses soil temperature and heat transfer mechanisms, temperature effects on contaminant removal, and temperature effects on mass transport in soils. In addition, the book gives a general introduction to the factors that influence the performance of in situ soil heating systems, summarizes literature on the subject, and provides a basis for planning data-gathering activities to determine the applicability and selection of a soil-specific heating technology. Through use of equations and definitive graphics, the concept of in situ thermal technologies is well-defined and easily grasped.

We believe this to be a well-written, informative text and recommend it to those interested in learning more about thermal remediation techniques.

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Quality Management of Safety and Risk Analysis, by J. Suokas and V. Rouhiainen, Elsevier, Amsterdam, 1993, 296 pages, price US\$ 168.50/Dfl. 295, ISBN 0-444-89864-6

The release of methyl isocyanate at Bhopal, India, over ten years ago spurred chemical industry interest in safety analysis and risk assessment. Since then, the use of technology to evaluate the safety of chemical plants has grown rapidly. But this increase in use has its own danger – varied quality of the analyses. Consequently, Soukas and Rouhiainen edited this multi-authored (although they really wrote over one-half of it themselves) book to give the basis for a systematic quality management