

This book offers something for a broad range of readers including the novice and the experienced field investigator. It blends a solid platform of basic site characterization technology with a discussion of new approaches and current thinking. I recommend the book to anyone who is engaged in the business of site characterization. The subject matter is complete with the exception of a discussion of drilling technologies and their effects on data quality. The use of case studies is very helpful and depth of knowledge of the authors well displayed. Even experienced site investigators will find food for thought in some of the new ideas that are offered.

GAYNOR W. DAWSON

*Handbook of Industrial Waste Treatment – Volume I*, edited by Lawrence K. Wang and Mu Hao Sung Wang, Marcel Dekker, Inc., New York, NY, 1992, US\$ 150.00, 292 pp., ISBN 0-8247-8716-1

The first in a set (to be at least three volumes long), this book uses an industry-by-industry approach to the topic of liquid waste treatment and follows the lead of numerous other authors in the past who wrote waste treatment books, i.e., Gurnham and Nemerow among others. Discussed are the waste treatment problems of the following “major” industries:

- Metal plating and finishing
- Photographic processing
- Soap and detergent manufacture
- Acid pickling waste
- Toxic waste
- Photographic industry waste

In addition to the above-focused chapters, there are two other general chapters: (1) Waste Minimization and (2) Stormwater Management.

The editors claim “extensive bibliographic reference” for each industrial waste treatment or practice and in the main they provide that. An exception is the chapter on “Acid Pickling of Metals” that has only three references, none of which are common – one written in German, one from the UK, and one in Turkish.

In addition to serving as a reference text, the editors claim it could be utilized as a college textbook. I really doubt many faculty members will adopt a three-volume series. And given the book has no problem or review questions, it is further unlikely to be favorably considered as a textbook selection. Finally, most academic courses approach wastewater treatment from a fundamental unit operations perspective rather than an industry-by-industry approach.

My overall assessment is that while interesting and generally well-written and edited, the series does not make a major contribution to the industrial wastewater treatment field.

GARY F. BENNETT