



## Book reviews

### **Sustainable Engineering—Conference Proceedings**

Subhas K. Sikdar, Conference Chair, AIChE, New York, NY, 2002, US\$ 66.00, 220 pp., ISBN 0-8169-0888-5

These proceedings, which contain 28 papers presented at AIChE's Annual Conference held in Indianapolis in November 2002, represent AIChE's commitment to the topic of Sustainability.

This topical conference "... was conceived as a first step to answer a simple question: what can chemical engineers do to advance the cause of sustainability, i.e. by designing processes and products with maximum environmental and social benefit while maintaining profitability?" To this end, the organizing committee selected 28 papers from the seven sessions noted below:

- Sustainability in Chemical Engineering
- Applications of Life Cycle Assessment I
- Applications of Life Cycle Assessment II
- Sustainable Design Methods I
- Sustainable Design Methods II
- Industrial Ecology
- Incorporating Environmental Sustainability into ChE Education

As with most conference proceedings, the papers are varied in length and content. Listed below are some of the papers that interested me:

- Research on technologies for a sustainable chemistry
- Comparative life cycle assessment for biomass to ethanol production from different regional feed stocks
- Integrated chemical complex and code generation analysis system: energy conservation and greenhouse gas management systems
- Energy integration and air emission reduction for a sustainable industrial complex
- Incorporation industrial ecology into hierarchical chemical process design: determining targets for the exchange of waste

AIChE has made a good initial approach to the important topic of sustainability with the publication of the proceedings. This new venture further takes AIChE's interest beyond pollution prevention.

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