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Jay H. Lehr, Keeley Jack (Eds.), *Water Encyclopedia: Domestic, Municipal, and Industrial Water Supply and Waste Disposal*, John Wiley and Sons, Hoboken, NJ, 2005 (968 pages, US\$ 350 [this volume], US\$ 1250 [5-volume set], 8.5 in. × 11 in. format), ISBN 0-471-73637-2 [this volume], ISBN 0-471-44164-3 [complete set].

Critically reviewing this book and one of its companions (Ground Water) was a daunting, almost impossible task. In this volume, more than 125 contributors generated 218 sections and a 30-page index. The amount of material published in this 8.5 in. × 11 in., 968-page book was overwhelming. I spent several hours paging through the book, reading sections of interest (especially those sections dealing with those areas in which I have the greatest technical familiarity).

Lehr and Keeley have assembled a comprehensive compilation of articles contributed by a worldwide group of scientists and engineers. Each article appears to be well written and as a group they certainly are well referenced. Indeed, many sections have both a list of cited references as well as a reading list. In addition to written invited contributions from individuals, the editors have included articles written by organizations such as found below:

- A description is included of the U.S. EPA's pretreatment program, 1973–2003: 30 Years of Protecting the Environment
- 1962 U.S. Public Health Service Standards

The book is divided into four major sections as noted below:

- Drinking water supply: 16 articles
- Municipal water supply: 113 articles
- Industrial water: 19 articles
- Waste water treatment: 70 articles

Since industrial water treatment is an area of interest, I will include the topic headings of sections of interest to me as an illustration of the topics discussed in the book:

- Magnetic water conditioning
- Industrial cooling water—biofouling
- Industrial cooling water—corrosion
- Economics of industrial water demands
- Evaluation of toxic properties of industrial effluents by on-line respirometry

The articles are of variable length, which, given the book's format and large number of contributors is not surprising. However, the articles I read were well written; given the fairly large number of articles submitted from non-English speaking countries, that was no simple accomplishment. Lehr and Keeley are to be complimented on their editing.

There was an article entitled "The State of the Water Industry 2004" by Steve Maxwell. It had much information that I had not seen before on the number, size, and financial aspects of 40 publicly traded water companies. Also included was an inclusion of recent company acquisitions and mergers. I note the above again to illustrate the book's broad coverage.

In closing let me note that this is a comprehensive coverage of the topic. I strongly urge that it be purchased for all reference libraries.

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