Book reviews

P. Hughes, E. Ferrett, Introduction to Health and Safety at Work, second ed., Elsevier/Butterworth-Heinemann, Oxford, UK, 2005 (419 pages, GBP 39.99, €57.95, US$ 59.95, 21 × 28(1/2) mm soft cover format, ISBN 0-7506-6623-4).

This book was developed as a study manual for the professionals who are preparing for a National Examination Board in Occupational Safety and Health (NEBOSH). An ancillary goal of the book is to provide a text for use by persons having health and safety responsibilities.

The book has 10 chapters titled as follows:

- Health and safety foundations
- Policy
- Organizing for health and safety
- Promoting a positive health and safety culture
- Risk assessment
- Principles of control
- Movement of people and vehicles—hazards and control
- Manual and mechanical handling hazards and control
- Work equipment hazards and control
- Electrical hazards and control
- Fire hazards and control
- Chemical and biological health hazards and control
- Physical and psychological health hazards and control
- Construction activities—hazards and control
- Incident investigation, recording and reporting
- Monitoring, review and audit
- Summary of the main legal requirements
- International aspects of health and safety
- Study skills

Of the above-noted chapters, three include the following material not related to the examination but were added because of their general interest. These topics are: (1) managing occupational road safety, (2) fast track settlement of compensation claims and (3) the effects of alcohol and drugs on occupational health and safety.

One item I looked for but found very little information on was the danger that chemicals pose in the workplace. The topic is barely mentioned.

However, a review of the chapter headings reveals the book's broad coverage on safety. In addition to being well written, the format makes the book easy to utilize. Techniques used in this regard were copious headings, liberal use of colour and numerous figures and illustrations designed to make the material easy to follow.

A very useful chapter for anyone preparing for the above-noted examination is a list of practice questions found at the end of each chapter.

Finally, I note the material contained in the final chapter of the book. In this chapter, the authors discussed the study skills that span the topic from "finding a place to study" to "the examiners' report."

Gary F. Bennett *
University of Toledo, Department of Chemical and Environmental Engineering, Mail Stop 305, Toledo, OH 43606-3390, United States

* Tel.: +1 419 531 1322; fax: +1 419 530 8086.
E-mail address: gbennett@eng.utoledo.edu

23 November 2005
Available online 2 February 2006

H. Greim (Ed.), The MAK-Collection for Occupational Health and Safety, Part 1: MAK Value Documentations, vol. 21, Wiley-VCH Verlag GmbH & Co. KgaA, Hoboken, NJ, 2005 (333 pages, US$ 225, ISBN 3-527-27049-3).

The MAK-Collection for Occupational Health and Safety originates in Germany (originally published in German), provides information for health and safety professionals on both the toxicological factors involving threshold values of workplace chemicals as well as methods of monitoring chemicals of concern.

The cover of the volume best describes its coverage:

"Here, documentations for the established MAK values (maximum workplace concentrations) of selected occupational toxicants are provided. The documentations include an authoritative review of the available toxicological studies and data. For every substance, toxic effects, mechanisms and modes of action, toxicogenetics and metabolism, effects in man and animals are described. The carcinogenetic, germ-cell mutagenic, sensitizing or skin-resorptive effects as well as their toxicity to the reproductive system are evaluated. Basic physico-chemical data are provided as well. The doc-