

## Book reviews

**B.J. Gallant (Ed.), Hazardous Waste Operations and Emergency Response Manual, Wiley-Interscience, Hoboken, NJ, 2006 (343 pp., US\$ 79.95, ISBN: 0-471-68400-7).**

This book was written to cover the complete curriculum requirements for personnel faced with the dangers of flammable, combustible, and chemically unstable materials as set forth by regulatory agencies such as Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA), United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), Hazardous Waste Operations and Emergency Response (HAZWOPER), and National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH). The book addresses the topic in the following 12 chapters:

1. Regulations, agencies and resources.
2. Hazard classification.
3. Site safety plan.
4. Site characterization.
5. Site control.
6. Toxicology and medical monitoring.
7. Air monitoring.
8. Personal protective equipment.
9. Decontamination procedures.
10. Respiratory protection.
11. Engineering controls.
12. Site emergencies.

Without doubt, such a book is needed, and to some extent this book fills that need. To the author's credit, the book generally reads well and the information is clearly delivered. However, as a reviewer (and editor) I found several faults such as:

1. Numerous irrelevant (trite) photographs were included such as a picture of the front of the government's Emergency Response Guidebook and the NIOSH Pocket Guide to Hazardous Chemicals. There are other such inclusions which I have not noted.
2. There are no references in the book to the relevant literature other than the pictures as noted above.
3. Local Emergency Planning Committees (LEPCs) are not well covered although they are mentioned.

4. HAZWOPER appears under an NFPA heading. This is strange.
5. The author's caution not to permit flammable gas to drain in the sewers. This is the first time I have heard about "draining gases."

Although the author covers the topic reasonably well, little in the book is new in this crowded (publication) field.

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**J. Angerer (Ed.), The MAK-Collection for Occupational Health and Safety: Part IV. Biomonitoring Methods, vol. 10, Wiley-VCH Verlag GmbH & Co., KGaA, Weinheim, Germany, 2006 (307 pp., Price: USD 170.00, ISBN 3-527-31137-8).**

This book is the 10th volume in the MAK Collection, the first volume having been published in 1988. This volume describes 11 "reliable and tested methods for biological monitoring". Additionally, it contains a chapter describing analytical methods in the field of biomonitoring. Analytical methods are given in detail for the following chemicals: alkoxy-carboxylic acids, aminodinitrotoluenes, bromide, 3,4-dichlorocatechol and 4,5-dichlorocatechol, furan-2-carboxylic acid, manganese, methylmercury, perfluorooctanoic acid, perfluorooctane sulphonic acid and perfluorobutane sulphonic acid, titanium, and 3,5,6-trichloro-2-pyridinol (TCPyr).

Detailed analytical methods are preceded by a 51-page chapter describing the use of gas chromatography–mass spectrometry, which has become the standard technique for the assay of organic compounds and their metabolites in biological material.