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Journal of Macromolecular Science, Part A

Publication details, including instructions for authors and subscription information: http://www.informaworld.com/smpp/title~content=t713597274

Editorial Comment

To cite this Article (1996) 'Editorial Comment', Journal of Macromolecular Science, Part A, 33: 12, xi

To link to this Article: DOI: 10.1080/10601329608011001 URL: http://dx.doi.org/10.1080/10601329608011001

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EDITORIAL COMMENT

On behalf of the Publisher of this Journal, Marcel Dekker, we are pleased to publish The First International Polymer Symposium on "Polymers from Natural Resources" in a Special Issue. The Symposium was held in Hanoi, Vietnam in January 1995.

This is the first opportunity that the Vietnamese scientific community has had to host a symposium on this scale, and it represents their first concerted attempt to enter the international scientific community. The Symposium was organized by the Chemical Society of Vietnam and its Polymer Division, sponsored by the Pacific Polymer Federation, and supported by the Society of Polymer Science, Japan, the Polymer Division of the Royal Australian Chemical Institute, and the Swiss Federal Institute of Lausanne. We believe it fitting to recognize this effort by publishing a Special Issue which contains the majority of the presentations in the form of full papers, abstracts of papers, and summaries of posters made at the Symposium.

We would like to recognize the work done by Professor Dang Van Luyen of the National Center for Science and Technology and Professor Otto Vogl of the Polytechnic University in organizing the publication of the Symposium. Special thanks and gratitude are extended to Professor Vogl for his hard work and dedication to this project for over a year in collecting, editing, and in some cases rewriting manuscripts.

> Russell Gaudiana Editor