

Book review

The Industrial Uses of Tin Chemicals, by S.J. Blunden, D.A. Cusack, and R. Hill, The Royal Society of Chemistry, 1985, vi + 337 pages. £26.00; US\$ 38.00. ISBN 0-85186-927-0.

This interesting and timely volume is concerned with all aspects of the increasingly important industrial applications of inorganic and organic derivatives of tin. Appropriately it is by authors from the International Research Institute, which has done so much to promote and publicize developments in tin chemistry in addition to making its own direct research contributions.

The account is wide ranging and comprehensive, as can be seen from the following chapter headings: Introduction (9 pages), Industrial Manufacture (14 pages), Toxicology (18 pages), Antifouling Systems (29 pages), Agrochemicals (23 pages), Wood Preservatives (27 pages), PVC Stabilizers (18 pages), Catalysts (18 pages), Glass Applications (8 pages), Fire Retardants (28 pages), Pharmaceuticals (24 pages), Ceramics (19 pages), Reducing Agents (9 pages), Miscellaneous Uses (including biocidal applications) (17 pages), and Environmental Aspects (36 pages). There is an Appendix listing the manufacturers and trade names of biocidal formulations. A great deal of information is clearly and concisely presented, and the account will be of interest to a wide range of industrial chemists and to environmental scientists as well as to research workers in the field of organotin chemistry.

The less satisfactory aspects of the book are that the book is photoreproduced from typescript (though no doubt this has helped to keep the price to a reasonable level), and that there is no index (though there is a comprehensive list of contents). But these are secondary defects in a publication which can be strongly recommended.

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