

International detergent standards considered

Internationally accepted standards for detergent materials and products moved closer to completion and acceptance last December in Paris at the meeting of the International Organization for Standardization—Technical Committee 91 on Surface Active Agents. Forty participating delegates from eight countries took part in the meeting and were joined by observers from a number of other organizations, including IUPAC, CID, and the International Organization of Consumers Unions. Delegates from the U.S. were Robert Kelley of Colgate-Palmolive, Anne Lyng of Procter & Gamble, and A.M. Schwartz of Gillette. (P. Stensby of Ciga-Geigy, who coordinates the U.S. contribution, was unable to attend.)

A number of standards were developed to the point where they are ready for final drafting and submitting to a vote of the membership of the International Organization for Standardization. These included standards related to terminology and some standard analytical methods for soaps and detergents.

The most important and controversial item on the agenda was the proposed guidelines for comparing and evaluating the performance of fabric washing products. The controversy centered around the number of washing cycles necessary for adequate evaluation of a product's cleaning ability. The consumerists favored an abbreviated and inexpensive test, while many of the participating delegates insisted on the necessity of many cycles. A compromise proposal was put forward and generally accepted that the number of cycles might be varied, depending upon the specific property being assessed. The matter rested, for the present, with the recognition that data should be developed and presented comparing the results of short (single cycle or few cycle) tests with the results of longer, multicycle tests.

Technical Committee 91 has been invited to hold its next meeting in Philadelphia in the fall of 1976. AOCS members who are interested in the activities of the committee or who wish to become involved in its work should contact: Dr. P. Stensby, Box 11422, Greensboro, N.C. 27409, or Mr. Jerome B. Schapiro, Chairman of ASTM Committee D-12 on Soaps and Other Detergents, 158 Central Ave., Rochelle Park, N.J. 07662. ■

**Bagley
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E.B. Bagley

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Edward B. Bagley has been named to direct all the engineering and development at the ARS, USDA's Northern Regional Research Center, in Peoria, Ill.

Bagley, who joined the staff of the Northern Center in 1971, has more than 10 years of industrial experience. After he received his Ph.D. in physical chemistry in 1954 from Cornell University, he was a research scientist primarily concerned with molten polymers for Canadian Industries, Ltd., Montreal, where he developed new analytical procedures to deal with those complex engineering fluids. In 1964, he went to Washington University, becoming a full professor of chemical engineering in 1966. As part of his industrial experience, including consultation for a number of industries and for NASA, he developed plant control instruments, a special wire-covering extrusion machine, and processing methods for "ladder" polymers. He is internationally known for his pioneering work in rheology, the science of deformation and flow of matter.

The Engineering and Development Laboratory of the Northern Regional Research Center carries on pilot-plant research necessary to convert new processes and products from oilseeds, cereal grains, and new crops to feasible and economic commercial endeavors. It serves as a bridge between laboratory discoveries and their appearance as new products on the market for the American consumer. Chemical engineering at the Peoria research center ranges from food extrusion, to enhance protein values, to chemicals, like nylon 1313 and powdered rubbers encased in starch. The engineers also are responsible for the design, installation, and operation of original or modified equipment to acquire operating information, commercial plant design data, and plant and product costs. The Engineering and Development Laboratory produces semicommercial quantities of new products for industry to evaluate. ■