

## Zeolite growth

Degussa AG and Crosfield Chemie BV, a Unilever subsidiary, have expanded zeolite production, according to reports in *Chemical Marketing Reporter*. Crosfield Chemie started production at its new zeolite facility in Eijsden, The Netherlands, in January, and the company plans to bring capacity to 50,000 metric tons (MT) per year, company officials reported. Degussa AG has expanded capacity at its Wesseling, West Germany, facility to 90,000 MT from 75,000 MT.

According to the report, zeolites are "likely to directly benefit from the industry-wide movement away from phosphate builders, particularly on the European stage where environmental awareness is heightened, because zeolites are more 'environmentally acceptable.'"

Meanwhile, Belgium chemical companies Solvay and UCB and Italy's Ausidet, a subsidiary of Montedison, are establishing a joint venture to produce zeolites for use in detergents. As a result, a 40,000-MT-a-year capacity zeolites facility will replace a sodium triphosphate (STPP) and phosphoric acid plant at UCB's Ostend, Belgium, site.

Ausidet will provide zeolites production know-how and marketing for the venture; Solvay will provide the raw materials, principally sodium silicate and aluminum hydroxide. Zeolite production startup is scheduled for early 1989.

In the U.S., Steelhead Resources Ltd. of Spokane, Washington, has purchased Tenneco Spe-

cialty Minerals, a company that mines, processes and markets natural zeolite minerals.

## Surfactant rise

Between 1990-1995, annual consumption of surfactants is forecast to reach 1.6 million metric tons (MT) in the U.S. and 1.04 million MT in Europe, according to a study from Hewin International Inc.

The firm's report, "Industrial and Institutional Surfactants in Western Europe and North America," said emulsion polymers (5.9% growth), petroleum (5% growth) and industrial and institutional cleaners (4.9% growth) would be the major growth areas for surfactants in the U.S. In Europe, surfactant use in industrial and institutional cleaners is projected to rise 4.4%; growth in usage in cement is forecast at 3.5%. Little or no increase in usage is expected in the European petroleum, paints and coatings, textiles and leather industries.

The study covers 40 surfactant materials. The applications section deals with the reasons and modes of application for surfactants, raw material requirements, biodegradation, eutrophication, toxicity legislation and new applications.

For more information on the 400-page report, contact Hewin International Inc., Van Leyenberghlaan 157/159, PO Box 7813, 1008 AA Amsterdam, The Netherlands.

## CESIO program

"Surfactants in our World—Today and Tomorrow" is the theme for the Second World Surfactants Congress, to be held May 24-27, 1988, in the Palais des Congrès, Paris, France. The meeting is sponsored by the European Committee on Organic Surfactants and Their Intermediates (CESIO) and Syndicat National des Fabricants d'Agents de Surface et de Produits Auxiliaires Industriels (ASPA).

The program features five major topics: surfactant economics; raw materials for surfactants; syn-

thesis, structure and properties of surfactants; application of surfactants; and surfactants in the environment. The surfactant economics session will cover economical development and forecast trends for different fields of application and surfactant classes. Topics covered in the raw materials lectures include raw material sources, processes and synthesis, and properties and characterization.

The synthesis section will deal with interfacial phenomena, emulsions and microemulsions, analytical methods, and structure and solution properties. The applications session includes information on surfactants in household cleaning products, cosmetics and industrial products. Legislation, effluent treatment, toxicological data and surfactant elimination will be discussed in the environmental session.

Official languages of the conference will be French, English and German, with simultaneous translation in all sessions. For more information, contact Wagons-Lits Tourisme Service Congrès, CESIO 88, attention Madame J. Bozzato, 32 rue du 4-Septembre, 75002 Paris, France.

## Polymer symposium

An international symposium on Polymer Analysis and Characterization will be held June 2-3, 1988, at the University of Toronto, Toronto, Canada.

The two-day symposium will consist of poster sessions, invited lectures and round-table discussions on recent advances in chromatography, spectroscopy, light scattering, rheology, thermal analysis and solution properties of synthetic and naturally occurring polymers.

For further information, contact Howard G. Barth, 207 Welwyn Rd., Wilmington, DE 19803, telephone 302-995-3772.

## News briefs

International Bio-Synthetics Inc. (IBIS Inc.), a subsidiary of IBIS

### Awards

The 1988 AOCS Award of Merit will be given to four men active for many years in the surfactants and detergents field: Arno Cahn, Ted Matson, Martin Schick and Helmut Stupel. For details, see the Meetings section, p. 448.

## Surfactants & Detergents News

BV, The Netherlands, has established its U.S. headquarters in Charlotte, North Carolina. IBIS BV, a joint venture between the Royal Dutch Shell Group and Gist-Brocades NV, manufactures industrial enzymes and fine chemicals. IBIS Inc.'s president and chief executive officer is G.W. Pyatt, formerly of Shell Oil Co. Other company executives include Robert Ryan, vice president of administration; James R. Hettenhaus, vice president of technology; James W. Godfrey, controller; and L.J. Norman, director of government and industry affairs. The four previously worked for Gist-Brocades USA Inc.

Ray Wilkins Jr., senior vice president of Ethyl Corp. and president of the company's chemicals group, has been elected to Ethyl's board of directors.

Akzo Chemie America has named Edward Boulas general manager for the company's detergent & personal care chemicals group in North America. In Europe, Peggy Viehweger has been named general manager for detergent chemicals, and

Hans Hogeweg will handle personal-care chemicals.

Croda International Plc has appointed J.G. Raeside regional director of the company's Southeast Asian operations. D.M. Crowley, formerly with the Southeast Asian operations, has been named group corporate development manager at Croda in England. In other developments, Croda has purchased the Dutch toilet soap maker, Hilko.

Celanese Chemical has been re-named Hoechst Celanese Chemical Group.

Vista Chemical Corp. has promoted Jan-Hein Weijers to managing director of its European operations.

Idemitsu Petrochemical Co. has broken ground for a 50,000-metric ton-a-year alpha-olefins plant at its Chiba site in Japan.

Aluminum Co. of America and Coastal Products & Chemicals Inc. have formed a joint venture to produce and market liquid sodium aluminate for the detergent zeolite, catalyst and titanium dioxide manu-

facturing industries. The Alcoa-Coastal venture has begun constructing two facilities, one in Houston, Texas, and one in Tennessee.

Unilever U.S. Inc. has chosen Morris Tabaksblat, a director of Unilever NV and Unilever PLC, to take over as regional director for North America and as chairman of Lever Brothers Co. upon the May retirement of Gordon K.G. Stevens. Tabaksblat will assume responsibility for the five major Unilever companies in North America. Succeeding Tabaksblat as chief executive officer of Chesebrough-Pond's will be Robert M. Phillips, now president and chief operating officer.

Unichema Chemicals Inc. has named Robert Potts technical service representative in its technical service department.

Hythe Chemicals, a subsidiary of BP Chemicals International, has been awarded an exclusive license to manufacture and market a line of nonionic surfactants for the West European market by Nippon Shokubai Kagaku Kogyo.

## Surfactants & Detergents Publications

### Book reviews

**Surfactants in Emerging Technologies**, edited by Milton J. Rosen (Marcel Dekker Inc., 270 Madison Ave., New York, NY 10016, 1987, 215 pp., \$65).

This book is Volume 26 of Marcel Dekker's Surfactant Science Series. It consists of a preface by the editor and nine chapters on the different technologies written by experts in their respective fields. There is a subject index but no author index. Essentially, it represents the proceedings of a 1986 conference, "The Role of Surfactants in New and Emerging Technology," held at Brooklyn College of the City University of New York. Each chapter is followed by summaries of one or two discussion sessions of the

conference.

The chapters and authors are as follows: The Use of Surfactants in Liquid Developers for Electronic Printing, Melvin D. Croucher; Possible Applications of Surfactants in Microelectronics, Melvin Pomerantz; The Role of the Surfactant in Magnetic Recording, Mark S. Chagnon and Robert Donadio; The Use of Surfactants in the Processing of High-Technology Electronic Ceramics, Ellen S. Tormey; Surfactants in Advanced Battery Technology, Patrick G. Grimes; Surfactants and Biotechnology, Saul L. Neidleman; Surfactants in Novel Separation Techniques, Donald B. Wetlaufer; An Overview of Surfactant-Based Separation Processes, John F. Scamehorn and Jeffrey H. Harwell; and Nalco's Hydrocarbon Emission Control Process, William H. Lindenberger.

The book offers an excellent introduction to the technologies cited. There are a number of illustrations in most chapters to make it easier for the reader to visualize the processes described. From the point of view of surfactant chemistry, the book is somewhat disappointing. For the most part, references to specific surfactants are vague and often only refer to trade names. Only Chapters 3 and 6 treat surfactants in greater depth. This, however, should not come as a surprise because, as one author puts it, the use of surfactants is still an intuitive art. Thus, the reader will realize that there are great opportunities for future research in the surfactant field.

The book is obviously printed by copying typed manuscripts, a money-saving method now in common use for scientific books. Un-