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### A Review of: HANDBOOK OF CAPILLARY ELECTROPHORESIS

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## THE BOOK CORNER

**HANDBOOK OF CAPILLARY ELECTROPHORESIS**, Second Edition, J. P. Landers, ed., CRC Press, Boca Raton, Florida, 1996, 894 pages.

The Second Edition of the Handbook of Capillary Electrophoresis is a massive volume which is made up of 30 chapters totaling 894 pages, and contains 400 figures and 65 tables. The editor writes "This fully updated Second Edition covers all areas of interest in the field of capillary electrophoresis (CE);" however, he failed to tell those who own the First Edition, why they should pay a handsome amount of money to invest in a Second Edition of a book they already have. It is a normal procedure that an editor or author who updates a book would tell the interested prospective buyer of another copy why he should buy it and what he would miss if he did not buy the new volume.

A quick glance would tell us the Second Edition is different from the First Edition in the following obvious points: (a) the Dedication is different; (b) the Foreword to the First Edition was written by Professor Karger while, for the Second Edition it is written by Professor Hjerten, and the two Forewords are different. The First Edition was divided into 23 chapters, i.e., seven chapters and about 200 pages less than the Second Edition. Other obvious changes are: the disappearance, in the Second Edition, of CE: Historical Perspectives, and changes in authors of some of the chapters. The First Edition, in addition to Chapter 1, was divided into: (I) Modes of CE (Chapters 2-6); (II) Detection (Chapters 7-8); (III) General Applications (Chapters 7-14); (IV) Specialized Applications (Chapters 15-17); and (V) Practical and Theoretical Considerations (Chapters 18-23). The Second Edition is divided into: (I) Modes (Chapters 1-5); (II) Analyte (Chapters 6-11); Essential Aspects (Chapters 12-16); (IV) Applications (Chapters 17-23); and (V) Specialized Aspects of CE (Chapters 24-30).

The Second Edition is definitely an improved and more informative book than the First Edition. The topics in the present edition are well selected, of general interest, up to date, and are written by experts in their respective areas.

The book is a welcome addition to the CE Library. It is a useful reference for those involved in biotechnology and clinical chemistry, as well as the pharmaceutical, bioscience, chemical, and instrument-manufacturing industries.

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Reviewed by  
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Editor, The Book Corner