

"Gmelin Handbook of Inorganic Chemistry", 8th Edition, Main Series, System No. 46, Tin. Part C, Section 5, "Complex Compounds of Tin", 1977, xxiv + 246 pages, DM 613, \$282. Part C, Section 6, "Complex Compounds of Tin", 1978, xx + 236 pages, DM 521, \$239.70. E. Schleitzer-Rust, volume editor-in-chief. H. Demmer and K. Koeber, volume authors, Gmelin Institut für Anorganische Chemie der Max Planck Gesellschaft zur Förderung der Wissenschaften, Springer-Verlag, Berlin/Heidelberg/New York.

These new additions to the Gmelin volumes on tin and its compounds are devoted to the complexes of divalent and tetravalent tin. These contain ligands in which the donor atom mostly is oxygen or nitrogen, but complexes in which the ligand donor atoms are sulfur, phosphorus, arsenic or antimony also are included. The ligands range from the very simple (H_2O , NH_3) to the very complex chelate type. A ligand formula index which covers the complexes in both volumes concludes the Section 6 volume and this is an indispensable aid to the user of these books. (An alphabetic index also is provided.)

These books bring all that is known about the subject of Sn(II) and Sn(IV) complexes: preparation, physical, thermodynamic and spectroscopic properties, solution behavior, and reactions. The coverage is not as up-to-date as in the usual new Gmelin volumes, with the literature closing date given as the end of 1973.

Although the study of complexes of tin hardly is in the forefront of modern tin chemistry research, these two volumes are welcome additions to the complete treatment of all tin compounds - inorganic and organic - by the Gmelin Institute.

Both volumes are written in German, but English translations of the preface, table of contents, chapter and section headings are provided.

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