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Special Short Course

The AOCS Statistics Committee has announced a special Short Course will be held at the Pick-Congress Hotel, Chicago, Ill., Oct. 24-26, 1963, on The Use of Statistical Techniques in the Evaluation and Interpretation of Chemical and Physical Testing Methods.

Sponsored jointly by AOCS and ASQC, the course was designed primarily for laboratory personnel of all industries who have little or no experience in the statistical treatment of analytical or test data and evaluation of testing methods. However, engineers, chemists, physicists and others involved in any aspect of testing work will find it extremely beneficial. John Mandel, National Bureau of Standards, and Grant Wernimont, Eastman Kodak Co., will instruct the course.

They will teach the types of problems in testing work with which statistics should be used; the value of statistics in dealing with these problems; the general approaches available for statistical treatment of testing problems; and the underlying reasoning used in solving testing problems.

They will show the solution of problems represented by typical data, about such topics as: Control chart techniques of viewing and presenting data; methods of determining precision and accuracy; evaluation of the testing method or procedures; comparison of test methods; point estimation and confidence intervals; sampling problems; inter-laboratory testing; factorial experiments; and statistics of the straight line.

Last-minute registrants should contact W. D. Pohle, Registrar, Research & Development Center, Packers and Exchange Ave., Chicago, Ill., 60609. Registration fee: \$100.

New Referral Service for Scientists and Engineers

Just recently, the National Referral Center for Science and Technology of the Library of Congress initiated services designed to assist scientists and engineers by identifying the many specialized, and frequently little known, information resources that are available to them. It acts as a clearing house, in an advisory capacity.

This service does not answer technical questions directly, but refers inquirers to the organizations, institutions, or individuals—within and outside the Government—capable of furnishing the material or information desired. Their approach to subject coverage is comprehensive and embraces all aspects of modern science and technology.

The services of the National Referral Center are available without charge to any organization or individual working in the field of science and technology. Requests for this service may be made by visiting the Center between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m., weekdays, on the fifth floor of the Library of Congress Annex, Second St. and Independence Ave. SE, or by calling STerling 3-0400. Written requests should be addressed to: National Referral Center for Science and Technology, Library of Congress, Washington 25, D.C.

• Industry Item

UNION CARBIDE CORP., New York, N. Y., has announced construction of facilities at Texas City, Texas, and Institute, W. Va., for the production of 150 million lb or more per year of an alkylate for making "biologically soft" detergents. The need for such detergents became urgent to the corporation to overcome foaming in sewage systems, rivers, and other water resources, since most detergents in use are not biodegradable. Operation of this division will begin in 1964.