

understand the physical chemistry of surfactants. The first section also includes a listing of German and international organizations in the surfactant field. Organizations listed are mostly European and do not involve U.S. participation.

The second section of the book deals with environmental aspects of surfactants, dealing primarily with legislation in Germany and other Common Market countries and therefore of limited interest to U.S. readers.

The third section consists of 122 pages of tables of physical data and flow sheets. The first part contains physical data such as molecular weights, melting points, boiling points, densities, hydroxyl values, indices of refraction, etc. for raw materials, intermediates and solvents used in surfactant synthesis. Here we find data for alkanes, alkenes, alkylbenzenes, fatty acids, fatty alcohols, fatty amines, alkanolamines and fatty alkanolamides, to mention just a few. Since the use of such tables does not require a thorough knowledge of German, this part would be very useful for American workers in the field.

The second part consists of 39 pages of physical data for surfactants and their intermediates. The data listed covers only European products which may not necessarily be identical with analogous U.S. products.

The third part of this section contains flow sheets for the production of surfactant intermediates such as oxo alcohols, Ziegler-type alcohols, alkylbenzenes, and schematic diagrams for sulfonation and neutralization and spray drying. Flow diagrams are also given for the production of ethylene and propylene oxides, morpholine and alkanolamines. The straightforward flow diagrams should be of interest to readers wanting to learn about such industrial processes. This part is followed by miscellaneous tables. The table of various measurement units might be of interest since some German units are different from those in the

English-speaking world (e.g., the unit of conductivity is Siemens rather than mho). The next part of the section concerns various German governmental regulations. The last part of this section lists names and addresses of associations and organizations active in the surfactant field. The listing of the AOCS under trade associations rather than scientific societies might have been an oversight, but the listing of our old Chicago address is unforgivable.

Section IV, 190 pages, a listing of all European trade names, is probably the least useful part of the book. Rather than having trade names in alphabetical order, as in McCutcheon, they are listed in alphabetical order of the manufacturers. Unless the reader knows the manufacturer's name, he has no way of finding out about the chemical nature of a given product.

The book concludes with a short appendix of a buyer's guide of surfactants and raw materials.

This book is aimed primarily at a European readership, knowledgeable in scientific German, working in production or research in some phase of the surfactant industry. It is clearly written and well illustrated and provides references to mostly European, and primarily German, literature. A few typographical errors were spotted. Because of language problems and heavy orientation toward German products, legislation, etc., it will probably be of limited interest to U.S. readers. On the other hand, the concept of such a reference book is excellent, and one can only hope that a similar book will be published some day for the English-speaking world.

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New Publications



The Proceedings of the 10th Meeting of the Spanish Committee on Detergents is now available. The meeting was held in March 1979 at Barcelona. The 25 presentations are published in each speaker's language—Spanish, English or French. Cost is US \$55. Contact: J.J. Garcia Dominguez, Comite Espanol de la Detergencia Tensioactivos y Afines (C.E.D.), Centro de Investigacion y Desarrollo, "Patronato Juan de la Cierva," C/Jorge Girona Salgado, S/N, Barcelona 17, Spain.



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