

Surfactants & Detergents Publications

Book reviews

Interfacial Phenomena in Apolar Media (Surfactant Science Series Vol. 21), edited by Hans-Friedrich Eicke and Geoffrey Parfitt (Marcel Dekker Inc., 270 Madison Ave., New York, NY 10016, 1987, 432 pp., \$89.75 US and Canada, \$107.50 all others).

This book, according to its preface, is the first comprehensive account of interfacial phenomena in apolar media. Even though the published literature on interfacial phenomena is overwhelmingly concerned with aqueous (protic) systems, the study of such phenomena in aprotic media is by no means negligible, as the book amply demonstrates. Indeed, some of its chapters deal with subjects of major technical and economic importance.

The stage for these subjects is set in a very good discussion of foaming and capillarity which provides a helpful comparison of these phenomena in aqueous and apolar media. This is followed by a thorough introduction to aqueous nanophases in liquid hydrocarbons stabilized by ionic surfactants—a subspecies of microemulsions. The same subject is elaborated on further in a chapter on the stabili-

zation of inverse micelles in which the effects of temperature and aromaticity (or lack thereof) of the hydrocarbon solvent on the phase behavior of such systems are brought out with particular lucidity.

The book continues with a weighty chapter on enhanced oil recovery with microemulsions, summarizing recent developments in this important area. Equally important, and well-written, is a discussion of interfacial catalysis by microphases in apolar media. This is the apolar equivalent of aqueous phase transfer catalysis and, as brought out in the discussion, bears an intriguing relationship to enzymic catalysis in life processes.

A brief chapter on water-in-oil emulsions, a fairly dense review of adsorption of polymers on solids in apolar media, and discussions of lubrication and of pigment dispersion in an apolar media complete the volume.

The level of discussion throughout the book is fairly demanding and the extensive review of the recent literature in the various areas is taut. Thorough perusal of this volume will reward the reader with exposure, in a unifying perspective, to a range of important scientific and technical subjects which are

unlikely to be found elsewhere in a single volume.

The book has been edited with care and contains an acceptable baker's dozen or so of errors.

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New book

Nonionic Surfactants: Physical Chemistry (Surfactant Science Series Vol. 23), edited by Martin J. Schick, Marcel Dekker Inc., 270 Madison Ave., New York, NY 10016, 1987, 1,160 pp., \$195 US and Canada, \$234 elsewhere.

Other publications

The International Federation of Societies of Cosmetic Chemists has available a monograph called **Principles of Product Evaluation: Objective Sensory Methods**. This, the first in a series, is meant for students learning the basics of cosmetic science. Price is 10 Swiss francs. Contact: IFSCC, Delaport House, 57 Guildford St., Luton, Beds, LU1 2NL, United Kingdom.

Surfactants & Detergents Calendar

1987

November

Steel Structures Painting Council annual meeting and technical symposium, Nov. 2-5, 1987, Sheraton World, Orlando, Florida. Technical symposium will be "Improving Field Reliability of Protective Coating Systems." Contact: Steel Structures Painting Council, 4400 Fifth Ave., Pittsburgh, PA 15213-2683.

Introduction to Polymer Chemistry Short Course, Nov. 2-6, 1987, University of Missouri-Rolla, Rolla, Missouri. Contact: Coatings Continuing Education, Department of Chemistry, University of Missouri-Rolla, 142

Schrenk Hall, Rolla, MO
65401-0249.

Society of Cosmetics Chemists, New York Chapter, Nov. 4, 1987, Clinton Manor, Union, New Jersey. Topic: Cosmetic Contenders Quiz Show. Contact: Herman Brown, Chapter Chairman, Finetex Inc., 418 Falmouth Ave., Elmwood Park, NJ 07407, telephone 201-797-4686.

December

2nd Pan Arab Conference on Soaps and Detergents, Dec. 6-10, 1987, Abu-Dhabi, U.A.E. Contact: Salih Rashid Al-Dhahiri, General Abu-Dhabi, Chamber of Commerce and Industry, PO Box 662, Abu-Dhabi, U.A.E.

1988

XIXth Meeting of CED/AID on Surfactants, March 9-11, 1988, Granada, Spain. Contact: Secretariá de la Asociación de Investigación de Detergents (AID), Jorge Girona Salgado, 18-26 Edificio Juan de la Cierva, 08034 Barcelona, Spain.

World Surfactants Congress II, "Surfactants in our world—today and tomorrow," May 24-27, 1988, Paris, France. Organized by ASPA, France, and sponsored by the European Committee on Organic Surfactants and Their Intermediates, Avenue Louise 250, Bte. 102, B-1050 Brussels, Belgium.