

Book reviews

H.F. Wicks, C. Fliefert, W.E. Russey (Eds.), *The Art of Scientific Writing*, 2nd Edition, Wiley-VCH, Weinheim, Germany, 2004 (xii + 595 pp., £24–95, ISBN 3-527-29829-0).

Quality scientific writing is of great importance to most scientists who live in a ‘publish or perish’ environment. However, only few of them would describe themselves as good writers. To help those wishing to improve their scientific writing skills, *The Art of Scientific Writing*, 2nd Edition provides different forms and goals of scientific writing from student reports to professional publications in chemistry and related fields. Moreover, details about the writing techniques, accurate expression and accepted standards are also including.

There are two main parts contained in this book. Part I is concerned with the various forms of scientific writing for various goals. Part II introduces the different materials, tools and methods in scientific writing. The first chapter writes about the purpose, preparation and different types of the report. A scientific report is one of the important parts of an experiment. Chapter 2 firstly gives an introduction about the purpose of the dissertation, then concerns on the components and preparing of the dissertation. The publication of the journal article and some details about how to make a manuscript into a publication are covered in Chapter 3. The planning and preparation of a book is covered in Chapter 4. These four chapters are all about the forms of the scientific writings.

The different currently available writing techniques are compared, in Chapter 5, with those previously available. With the development of the technology in personal computers, electronic formatting of scientific writing is very popular. Chapter 6 focuses attention on the concepts of ‘formulas’, and parallels the two subsequent Chapters 6 and 7 on: ‘Figures’ and ‘Tables’. These three chapters emphasize technical aspects of writing that directly relate to the different parts of a scientific manuscript. Quantities, units used in various fields and numerical data of scientific writing are included in Chapter 6 while the general considerations and the different ways of creating figures are introduced in Chapter 7. The forms and components of the tables are dealt with in Chapter 8. The final Chapter 9, describes how to collect and build your own professional literatures from various sources, and also introduces different citation techniques of literature.

This book provides an up-to-date, clearly written and presented compendium as a tool book. It is especially

suitable for the students and scientists in chemistry and related fields who want to improve their scientific writing.

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Accepted 16 March 2005

Available online 26 April 2005

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doi:10.1016/j.carbpol.2005.03.006

R. Day, J. A. Reader, E. Rowland, *Health, Safety and Environment Legislation: A Pocket Guide*, Royal Society of Chemistry Cambridge, UK, 2003 (xxiv + 332 pp., £49.50, ISBN 0-85404-497-3).

Concerns regarding the health and safety of employees in the work place have existed for more than 120 years in the UK with the publication of *Redgrave's Factories Acts*. Nowadays, legislation has existed since the 1974 act and was reinforced in 1999. These acts secure the health, safety and welfare of persons at work, as well as protecting persons other than persons at work against the risk to health and safety arising from work activities. More recently, legislation for the protection of the environment has also been defined in order to control pollution and biohazards. Employees and employers are both encouraged to be familiar with current laws since ignorance is not a valid defence.

Health, Safety and Environment Legislation reviews current rights and duties of employees at work concerning their health and safety, as well as the obligations for companies regarding the safety of employees, and environment legislation. The guide is divided into two parts. Part A focuses on health and safety regulations in the work place. It is divided into six chapters, which cover existing legislation, external notification, substance manipulation, plant and equipment utilisation, premises, and employee's rights. Part B presents 11 chapters on environment-related regulations. Topics covered in this section include

integrated pollution control, air pollution, genetically modified organisms, water pollution, waste, external noise, hazardous materials, environmental information, nature conservation and energy conservation.

This is a well-organised, concise, and up-to-date guide, which is a useful tool for both employers and employees so they can know their rights and duties in case of accidents.

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Accepted 16 March 2005
Available online 26 April 2005

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doi:10.1016/j.carbpol.2005.03.005

P. Senior, N. Dege (Eds.), Technology of Bottled Water, Second Edition, Blackwell Publishing Ltd, Oxford, UK, 2005 (xvi + 411 pp., £129.95, ISBN 1-4051-2038-X).

Human beings have a fundamental requirement for water, to maintain good health under normal circumstances. As the civilisation and technology developed, there were advancements in the delivery systems supply for the effective and safe supply of this essential commodity. The growing awareness and increasing concerns about the potential pollution of municipal supplies has led to increase in the consumption of bottled waters worldwide.

As per the editor's note, this book is a second edition of the previous book and different chapters have been updated besides inclusion of chapter on cleaning and disinfection. During 1994–2002, the world bottled market has grown from 50 to 144 billion l. The second chapter deals with the market development of bottled water along with historical

and regional influences. Different regions of the world continue to have a wide range of requirements and specifications for bottled water. By examining the views of different legislative requirements in certain markets, an effort is made in chapter third to establish the criteria by which bottled waters are categorized in different parts of world. The book continues with chapters on hydrogeology of bottled waters, water treatments, maintaining safety and integrity, filling equipment and cleaning and disinfection's of bottled water industry.

Quality management is important in any process is important to meet product specifications and bottled waters are no exception to this system. The chapter on quality management addresses the issues like Hazard Analysis Critical Control Point, process control and technical work of a quality assurance laboratory. The process of third party auditing and philosophy behind is described in a separate chapter.

All bottled waters must be safe to drink and are required to be free from any pathogenic microorganisms. There is generally difference in the microbiology status of municipal or mains water and bottled water, when two products are compared. These issues of microbiology with special reference to natural mineral waters and treated bottled water are discussed in the concluding chapters.

The topics in the book are clearly explained and well discussed from global viewpoint. It can be excellent source of information to beverage and packaging technologists, microbiologists, hygiene specialists and persons involved in research and academia.

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0144-8617/\$ - see front matter © 2005 Published by Elsevier Ltd.
doi:10.1016/j.carbpol.2005.04.001