

BOOK REVIEW

Handbook of Pharmaceutical Additives, compiled by Michael Ash and Irene Ash. Published by Gower, Croft Road, Aldershot, Hampshire, UK; Distributed by Ashgate Publishing Company, Old Post Road, Brookfield, VT 05036-9704, USA. \$350.00.

This book contains data on more than 3500 trade name products. It is divided into four sections:

- *Part I—Trade Name Reference*: Provides useful information on chemical composition, manufacturers, general properties, uses, and regulatory status.
- *Part II—Chemical Dictionary/Cross Reference*: Contains an alphabetical listing with a useful cross-reference facility.
- *Part III—Functional Cross Reference*: Allows access to alphabetical lists of excipients in 75 different classes.
- *Part IV*: Lists about 600 manufacturers with addresses, and phone and fax numbers.

Readers of the review may wonder if this book is competitive to the *Handbook of Pharmaceutical Excipients*. I do not think so. Rather, I regard the two books as performing separate, but complementary, functions. I strongly recommend the purchase of both books by anyone in industry or academic life who has any requirement for information on pharmaceutical additives. No, the book could not be called inexpensive, but even the most casual perusal of its contents will convince the reader that it is the result of much painstaking work by the two editors.

Christopher T. Rhodes
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