

Industrial Organic Pigments. Manufacture Properties and Application, by W. Herbst and K. Hunger. Published by VCH Verlagsgesellschaft, Weinheim, FRG (in German), 1987, 637 pp. Price: DM 320.

There has been a noticeable absence in the past years of a standard reference volume on organic pigments. With the increasing industrial use of organic pigments, this present volume is an especially welcome addition to the current texts on colouring matters. The book is concerned primarily with pigment chemistry from the aspect of industrial significance, as opposed to an exhaustive scientific treatise of the compounds.

The initial chapters are concerned with the chemical and physical characteristics of the pigments, their properties with particular respect to technical applications, particle size distribution in relation to application properties, and areas of application of organic pigments. Each chemical class of the pigments is then discussed, with reference to manufacture, properties and application, together with a full descriptive listing of each commercially available pigment within that chemical class. Trade names are not used, all pigments being referred to by their Colour Index references. A final extensive section deals with the ecological and toxicological aspects of the pigments. In addition to the normal book index, there is a very useful separate appendix referencing every pigment (classified by colour) referred to in the text and a section outlining schematically the routes used in the synthesis of each chemical class of pigments.

The volume can be recommended unreservedly to industrial and academic practitioners concerned in any way with the technological aspects of organic pigments. Presentation throughout is of the highest quality and the volume must now become the standard reference text in this important area of colouring matters.

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