

## Book Review

**Pigment Handbook, Vol. I, Properties and Economics**, 2nd edn. Edited by Peter A. Lewis. Published by John Wiley & Sons, New York, 1988. 945 pp. ISBN 0-471-82833-5. Price: \$195.00.

The *Pigment Handbook* has served as the main authoritative English language reference work on inorganic and organic pigments since the publication of the first edition in 1973. Recognized worldwide as a standard reference on pigments in both industrial and academic circles, Volume I of the *Pigment Handbook* considers the properties and economics of pigments, and has now been published in its second edition.

The second edition of Volume I provides information on eleven general classes of pigments which are of industrial significance today. It covers (a) white pigments, (b) extender pigments, (c) colored inorganic pigments, (d) colored organic pigments, (e) black pigments, (f) metallic pigments, (g) nacreous (pearlescent) and interference pigments, (h) luminescent organic pigments, (i) fluorescent and phosphorescent inorganic pigments, (j) miscellaneous inorganic pigments, and (k) food, drug and cosmetic colors. Some pigments which only share a very small part of the market or have now been discontinued are not included in the second edition. On the other hand, new organic and inorganic pigments which have been developed since 1973 are now featured in the second edition.

This edition retains the basic format of its predecessor, with each chapter covering an individual pigment or a class of pigments. The information which is presented on each pigment includes historical background, properties, relevant physical and chemical properties, grades, specifications

and manufacturers. Economic and market data have been updated and environmental effects has been added to the majority of the chapters in this new edition. This is timely in view of the increased awareness of safety in the workplace and environment.

It should be noted that in this second edition the coverage on the physical properties of pigments has been greatly expanded. Many more electron photomicrographs of pigments, indicating particle size, have been included as well as spectrophotometric reflectance curves, surface area and several X-ray diffraction patterns.

The importance of this revised edition, in particular, and of the entire *Pigment Handbook*, in general, to those in industry and academia who are concerned with all aspects of pigments, cannot be overemphasized. The information is well presented, has been expanded in several areas, and yet remains reasonably concise.

The editor of the second edition, Peter A. Lewis, has provided us with an excellent revision of the text. All the contributors who have shared their expertise with us in the field of pigments are to be congratulated for their contribution in this area.

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