Separation & Purification Reviews
Publication details, including instructions for authors and subscription information:
http://www.informaworld.com/smpp/title~content=t713597294

A review of: "Encyclopedia of Emulsion Technology".

To cite this Article (1983) 'A review of: "Encyclopedia of Emulsion Technology".', Separation & Purification Reviews, 12: 2, 217
To link to this Article: DOI: 10.1080/03602548308068403
URL: http://dx.doi.org/10.1080/03602548308068403

SEPARATION AND PURIFICATION METHODS, 12(2), 217 (1983)

BOOK REVIEW

ENCYCLOPEDIA OF EMULSION TECHNOLOGY

Volume 1 - Basic Theory
P. Becker, Ed.

Marcel Dekker, New York, 1983; hardbound, 725 pages, $95.00.

This work is, if not a successor, at least a junior companion to Dr. Becker classic Emulsions: Theory and Practice. This hefty volume is the first of a two-volume opus; it is, as is becoming inevitable in any such fast-expanding field, a multi-authored effort. Its nine chapters treat: 1. Liquid/liquid interfaces, by T.F. Tadros and B. Vincent; 2. Formation of emulsions, by P. Walstra; 3. Emulsion stability, by T.F. Tadros and B. Vincent; 4. Microemulsions, by S.E. Friberg and R.V. Venable; 5. Phase properties of emulsions: PIT and HLB, by K. Shinoda and H. Kunieda; 6. Emulsion droplet size data, by C. Orr; 7. Rheological properties of emulsions, by P. Sherman; 8. Optical properties of emulsions, by R.S. Farinato and R.L. Rowell; 9. Dialectric properties of emulsions and related systems, by M. Clausse. Each chapter ends with a list of symbols (where needed), and an extensive bibliography. The volume ends with a subject index. While most chapters vary in length between about 30 and 60 pages, two of them, i.e. chapters 3 and 9, approach the dimension of monographs in their own right, at 156 and 234 pages respectively.

Although at first sight emulsions might appear more useful for promoting mixing rather than separation, in actual fact emulsions play an increasingly important role in various separation systems (see, e.g., this Series, 11, 29, 1982), as will also become apparent in the impending second volume of this Encyclopedia. Thus this Encyclopedia is most strongly recommended as indispensable to all separation scientists, colloid and surface chemists, and chemical engineers.

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