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Preface

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Preface

Adsorption technology is finding an ever-increasing range of applications in today's world. These applications range from bulk separations of gas and liquid mixtures and process stream clean-up to ultrapurification and storage of permanent gases. These processes have a common thread in that they exploit an ability of solids to selectively concentrate species at their surfaces by adsorption. Two symposia devoted to Applications of Adsorption were held at the annual meeting of the American Institute of Chemical Engineers in Los Angeles on November 17–22, 1991. This issue of *Separation Science and Technology* contains a collection of papers that were presented at these symposia and that passed a rigorous review process.

The papers included in this issue are quite diverse in nature. On the one hand, it contains theoretical papers that deal with molecular simulations of methane adsorption on carbon surfaces with an eye toward possible adsorptive storage applications. On the other hand, it contains papers dealing with practical industrial applications of adsorption as a separation tool. Because of this diversity, we believe that this issue will prove useful to scientists engaged in fundamental research in adsorption as well as to practicing engineers who deal with industrial applications of adsorption.

Timely completion of such a task requires the cooperation and help of many groups of people. In this regard, we wish to express our gratitude to authors, reviewers, the publisher, and the professional organization. We thank the authors for their quality contributions and also for meeting the rigid time schedules imposed by the editors. The input of reviewers is crucial in any endeavor of this type, and this case is no exception. We thank all the reviewers for the timely and thorough reviews they provided of the manuscripts. Thanks are also due to the American Institute of Chemical Engineers and especially to the members of the Adsorption and Ion Exchange group. Finally, we are grateful to the publishers of *Separation*

Science and Technology and to Dr. J. Calvin Giddings for providing this opportunity to put this issue together.

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