

The Supper Radiation Enclosure is priced from \$3800 (list). Literature is available on request.

Charles Supper Company, Inc., Lee Supper, Marketing, 15 Tech Circle, Natick, MA 01760, USA

J. Appl. Cryst. (1988). **21**, 580

Philips Analytical Acquires Marketing Rights for Bench-Top X-ray Diffractometer

A marketing agreement signed between Philips Analytical and Durham-based Bede Scientific has enhanced Philips capability in the field of semiconductor testing and quality control. Under the agreement Philips Analytical acquires sales, service and marketing rights for **Bede's QC1 Quality-Control Double-Crystal Diffractometer** on a worldwide basis excluding North America.

The only instrument of its kind available in the UK, the QC1 high-resolution X-ray diffractometer brings new levels of sophistication to quality control in the semiconductor industry. Optimised for speed and ease of use, its single-cabinet design and bench-top compactness make the instrument ideal for clean-room applications. See *J. Appl. Cryst.* (1987). **20**, 272 for full product details.

Philips Scientific, York Street, Cambridge CB1 2PX, England.

J. Appl. Cryst. (1988). **21**, 580

Sietronics Laser Alignment Device

The **Laser Alignment Device** is a new concept in X-ray-free alignment of goniometers, monochromators and crystals; in fact any piece of X-ray analytical instrumentation.

It consists of 3 components: (1) The Laser Device – takes the place of an X-ray tube in the tube shield; (2) The TOA Setting Jig – allows precise setting of take-off angle as well as azimuth; (3) The Shutter Puller – allows operation of the tube-shield shutters without use of the generator.

The vertical height of the beam-deflecting mirror is adjusted to match the height of the actual X-ray tube anode (setting laser spot to match a previously obtained fluorescent spot – this only needs setting once).

The laser beam will give specular reflection off plane and curved crystal surfaces and off small mirrors mounted in place of the specimen.

Sietronics Pty Limited, Post Office Box 84, Hawker, ACT 2614, Australia

Book Reviews

Works intended for notice in this column should be sent direct to the Book-Review Editor (R. O. Gould, Department of Chemistry, University of Edinburgh, West Mains Road, Edinburgh EH9 3JJ, Scotland). As far as practicable books will be reviewed in a country different from that of publication.

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Organic solid state chemistry. (Vol. 32 of Studies in organic chemistry.) Edited by G. R. Desiraju. Pp. xii + 550. Amsterdam; Elsevier Science Publishers, 1987. Price Dfl360, US\$175.50.

With increasing research interest in the physical and chemical properties of organic solids, the appearance of a monograph so entitled should be timely. Unfortunately, since most of the chapters are devoted to organic materials which are single crystals, this volume goes only part of the way in covering 'solid state' organic chemistry. As a consequence, the overall coverage of this book is not as comprehensive as perhaps the title might suggest.

The subject matter is presented as a collection of 14 essentially independent reviews from a total of 22 contributors, each complete with its own reference section, which have been loosely grouped together under three main headings: (i) *Organic solid state reactions* which include some fairly classical reactions such as hydrogen abstraction, photodimerization and photopolymerization; (ii) *The stereochemistry of molecules in the solid state* with discussions on guest-host complexes, gas-solid reactions and polymorphism; and (iii) *Intermolecular interactions in the solid state* covering topics such as molecular motions, conformational polymorphism, non-bonded contacts, molecular packing and phase transitions in solids. With the emphasis on crystalline solids, the results of X-ray crystallographic studies feature prominently in the discussions.

The above categories are by no means exclusive, resulting in considerable duplication across the various sections. Overall, there is the impression of a lack of systematic coverage and coherence that a single-authored work might have had. Although no book could expect to cover all aspects of organic solid state chemistry, there are some highly topical areas which have been omitted or are hardly mentioned, including structural aspects of electrical or ionic conduction, ionic and chemical sensors, non-linear optical properties and photochromism.

With the exception of one or two poorly reproduced photographs, the book is

generally well illustrated and clearly presented although, as a consequence of 'camera-ready' production, the text has as many print styles as there are chapters. Arguably with the ready availability of MS-DOS based personal computers and the adoption of an agreed text processing package, this lack of uniformity in presentation could have been easily avoided.

Given its high price, this book is unlikely to attract much in the way of personal purchase. Nonetheless, it could certainly be recommended to non-specialists such as synthetic organic chemists who require an introduction to the structural aspects of the chemistry of crystalline organic compounds. It remains to be seen, however, whether this book will be more widely adopted as a reference text.

K. J. McCULLOUGH

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Books Received

J. Appl. Cryst. (1988). **21**, 580

The following books have been received by the Editor. Brief and generally uncritical notices are given of works of marginal crystallographic interest; occasionally a book of fundamental interest is included under this heading because of difficulty in finding a suitable reviewer without great delay.

Quantum aspects of molecular motions in solids: Springer Proceedings in Physics Vol. 17 – Proceedings of an ILL-IFF Workshop, September 24–26, 1986. Edited by A. Heidemann, A. Magerl, M. Prager, D. Richter and T. Springer. Pp. xii + 221. Berlin: Springer-Verlag, 1987. Price DM 85. A review of this book, by Alison B. Walker, has been published in the May 1988 issue of *Acta Crystallographica*, Section A, page 399.

Physics of phonons. Edited by T. Paszkiewicz. (Proceedings of the XXIII Winter School of Theoretical Physics, Karpacz, Poland, February 26–28, 1987. Volume 285 of *Lecture notes in physics*.) Pp. x + 486. Berlin: Springer-Verlag, 1987. Price DM80. A review of this book, by William Cochran, has been published in the September issue of *Acta Crystallographica*, Section A, page 765.

Fifty years of neutron diffraction: the advent of neutron scattering. Edited by G. E. Bacon. Pp. 280. Bristol: Adam Hilger, 1987. Price £30.00. A review of this book, by S. Komura, has been published in the September 1988 issue of *Acta Crystallographica*, Section A, page 766.