



# Handbook of Petrochemicals Production Processes (McGraw-Hill Handbooks)

*By Robert A. Meyers*

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Chemicals -- and the process used to produce them -- are a billion dollar business. Written by experts from major international petrochemical licensing firms, this innovative handbook details the latest and most powerful chemical processes used to create the most economically important chemicals in the world.

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## Editorial Review

### Review

Although described as a handbook, this work is more an encyclopedic description of 53 industrial process technologies for producing 18 different petrochemicals. Each process is described in a separate chapter by a different author or authors from one of 18 different companies from North America, Europe, or Japan. The descriptions are mostly brief (averaging 13 pages) and include the following information: general process description, process chemistry, process perspective, process description, product specifications, wastes and emissions, and process economics. The amount of detail varies, but the most common elements are the chemistry and flow diagram of each process, with other details being mostly of a qualitative or descriptive nature. The reader should be aware that there are many other large companies that have patented processes for a number of the chemicals included (notably absent is ICI, one of the largest, so the compilation should be considered representative rather than extensive. This excellent introduction and summary of typical plant operations is recommended as a valuable reference for any technical library that includes industrial chemistry and/or chemical engineering. Summing Up: Highly recommended. Upper-division undergraduates; professionals; two-year technical program students. -- "R. Darby, emeritus, Texas A&M University"

### From the Back Cover

#### **THE FIRST AND ONLY GUIDE TO REAL WORLD PETROCHEMICAL ENGINEERING**

This unique reference is the only one-stop source for details on licensed petrochemical processes for the major organic chemicals, a \$200 billion annual market. Prepared by some of the largest petrochemical and petroleum companies in the world, *Handbook of Petrochemicals Production Processes* provides in-depth process detail for commercial evaluation and covers plastics and polymers such as ethylene and polyethylenes; propylene; ethylbenzene, styrene and polystyrenes; vinyl chloride and polyvinyl chloride; and many others. This handbook answers questions on yields, unit operations, chemical and physical values, economics, and much more.

#### **Look inside this outstanding reference for state-of-the-art coverage of:**

- \* General process descriptions, feed definitions, product yields, and simplified flow diagrams
- \* Process chemistries and thermodynamics
- \* Commercial process perspectives, including plant locations and long-term plans
- \* Process details, with flow diagrams and mass and energy balances for major process variations
- \* Feeds and details on unique and key equipment

### About the Author

**Robert Meyers** earned his Ph.D. in organic chemistry from UCLA, was a post-doctoral fellow at Cal Tech and manager of chemical processes for TRW. He has published in *Science* and the *Journal of the American Chemical Society* as well as *Chemical Engineering*, written or edited 12 scientific books and holds more than 20 chemical patents. His research has been reviewed in *The New York Times*, *The Wall Street Journal* and *Chemical Engineering*. A more detailed biography appears in *Who's Who in the World*.

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