PVC TECHNOLOGY

Fourth Edition

W.V. TITOW

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Preface to the Fourth Edition

This book continues the tradition of the first two editions of the late W. S. Penn's original *PVC Technology*, and the extensively revised third (1971) edition prepared by myself and B. J. Lanham.

In the present edition the original general format, and the arrangement of chapters, have been largely preserved, but virtually nothing now remains of Penn's own text: a part of the contents is based on material from the 1971 Titow/Lanham version (revised, updated and mainly rewritten): the rest is new, including, *inter alia*, several chapters specially contributed by experts from the plastics industry in the UK and Europe. The section listing international (ISO) and national (BS, ASTM and DIN) standards relevant to PVC, which was first introduced (as Appendix 1) in the 1971 edition, proved a popular feature: it has now been brought up to date and considerably extended. Two further appendices provide, respectively, comprehensive unit conversion tables (with additional information on some of the most frequently encountered units, and the SI units), and a list of many properties of interest in PVC materials, with definitions, typical numerical values, and references to relevant standard test methods.

For various reasons, work on this edition involved more than the usual quota of problems: I am truly grateful to the Publisher's Acquisitions Editor, Mr G. B. Olley, for his understanding, patience, unfailing courtesy and friendly encouragement. I am also most appreciative of the helpful attitude of all other members of the Publisher's staff who were concerned with the various aspects of processing the manuscript and bringing the book out.

If my own contribution to the book has any merit, then I would like to dedicate it—respectfully and affectionately—to all my friends of the Yarsley Laboratories with whom I was priviledged to share many happy years, participating in the worthwhile work of a good team.

W.V.T.

Acknowledgements

I am much indebted to Messrs W. B. Duncker, F. J. Olivier and D. J. Sieberhagen of Vynide Ltd for their most helpful comments on the draft of Chapter 18 and for the trouble they took—individually and severally—to provide the drawing for Fig. 18.3, data for Table 18.1, and a few items of information on certain practical aspects of calendering. I am also grateful to Mr J. M. Hofmeyr of Union Carbide for the information he kindly supplied on the *Ucar* range of copolymer resins, and for his permission to use it in Chapter 24.

It is a pleasure to record my thanks to Mr R. Coates of AECI/Chlor-Alkali and Plastics Ltd for a most useful discussion of the scripts of Chapters 2 and 3, for items of information I have used in Tables 2.5 and 2.6, and for arranging his Company's permission—which I very much appreciate—to reproduce from their technical literature the contents of Tables 3.4–3.7.

For the illustrations contained in the Plates my thanks are due to the companies and/or individuals identified in each caption, who kindly provided the original photographs.

A small number of graphs and drawings, and one table (Table 14.1), are straight reproductions from other publications: the copyright holders' and authors' permissions to use these items—which are mentioned in each individual case—are much appreciated.

A few definitions and sets of numerical data have been directly quoted (with sources clearly identified) from ISO, British and ASTM Standards. Such material from ISO specifications is reproduced by permission of the British Standards Institution granted on behalf of the International Organisation for Standardisation. The extracts from Brit-

ish Standards are reproduced by permission of the British Standards Institution, 2 Park Street, London W1A 2BS, from whom complete copies of the standards concerned can be obtained. The material from ASTM Standards is copyright the American Society for Testing and Materials, 1916 Race Street, Philadelphia, PA 19103, and is reprinted with permission.

I am particularly grateful to Mrs Rene Chizlett—whose invaluable secretarial contribution to the previous edition was greatly missed with the present one—for timely help with last-minute verification of several items of information on suppliers of commercial PVC materials.

Mrs Connie von Gernet typed most of the manuscript—it is a pleasure to acknowledge her professional assistance. I am also most appreciative of Mrs Micky Kruger's secretarial help with two of the chapters and urgent correspondence.

No aid on the technical side could be more important than the support and patience of my wife, Margaret Ley-Titow, during the long period, not lacking in stress, when the book was being put together. For all she has done she has my truly appreciative thanks.

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