

BOOK REVIEW

The Metals Data Book by Alok Nayar, Tata McGraw Hill Pub. Co. Ltd., New Delhi 110 008, pp. 876 and Price: Rs 650.

The Metals Data Book contains extensive information on aspects such as classification of alloys, their composition, mechanical properties, transformation temperatures, heat treatment temperatures and typical applications of several grades of alloys including cast irons, steels, aluminium alloys, copper alloys and zinc alloys. Also provided is information on the physical properties of metals. The effect of each alloying element is described for many alloys. A chapter is exclusively devoted to powder metallurgy of some commercial alloys. This is indeed a one-stop source for all metallurgical data which are expressed in SI units. The data are compiled in the form of tables which makes reference and comparison of different alloys easy. The compilation provides Indian,

American, German, British, Japanese and ISO equivalents. The book also devotes a full chapter to Units and Measures wherein conversion factors and conversion tables are included which will be of immense help.

The author, a metallurgical engineer himself with vast experience, has painstakingly put together information from available standards, reference books and publications of technical societies. The book is really the result of a commendable effort. The author may consider extending the coverage to nickel alloys, titanium alloys, molybdenum alloys and tungsten alloys in the next edition to further enhance its usefulness.

This excellent handbook is extremely useful for engineering professionals like designers, manufacturing engineers, maintenance engineers, quality assurance engineers, purchase department staff as well as teachers and researchers in the area of metals and alloys. With 876 pages and priced modestly at Rs 650, this reference book should find a place in all technical libraries.

D H Sastry
Indian Institute of Science
Bangalore 560 012, India