

# General Announcements

## Bibliographic Process at ICDD

The bibliographic effort at the International Centre is the primary source of new and improved data for the Powder Data File. Recently, this operation has been extended to take advantage of the availability of computerized literature search services, such as, Data Abstract Search Services and NERAC, as well as collaboration with the Crystal Data bibliographic operation.

Leo Zwell, the principal bibliographer, continues the manual (selected journals) search job that he has performed for more than fifteen years. In the selected category, more than 90% of the useful data has been obtained from approximately 150 journals. The expanded bibliographic operation supplements the manual effort and greatly increases the literature coverage by using computerized abstracting and search services. These services have the capability of citing many non-selected, newly occurring or obscure journals.

Also, in addition to regular visits to more than twelve libraries by the bibliographer, two other libraries, NBS and USGS, are covered on a regular basis. The extensive serial holdings at these facilities allow the coverage of a very large number of journals.

The ICDD welcomes the receipt of any useful powder data, particularly that data which might be published in difficult to obtain journals or data which might not be included in any publication.

## The Methods and Practices Handbook

In 1965 the International Centre for Diffraction Data started work on what has since come to be known as a "Methods and Practices Handbook". The initial idea was to produce a document which would provide basic information on how to obtain and use good quality powder diffraction data. Progress on the document was slow initially and there was much early discussion on how to keep such a document current. In 1983 the Education Subcommittee of the International Centre again addressed this problem and decided that the solution might lie in a loose-leaf binder, which could be regularly updated with replacement or additional sections as developments in the field required. It was also felt that a close tie should exist between the Methods and Practices Handbook and the Journal of Powder Diffraction — which is also sponsored and run by the International Centre. In fact, several of the papers invited by the Editors of Powder Diffraction were specifically selected because it was felt that they could also become a part of a more permanent compendium — the Methods and Practices Handbook.

In order to get the Handbook into the hands of as many users as possible, the International Centre has decided to give one copy, free of charge, to all purchasers of PDF Set 37, or to any customer purchasing a minimum of \$500.00 worth of goods from the International Centre. This offer is good until March 31st 1988. Additional copies of the Methods and Practices Handbook are obtainable at a cost of \$75.00.

This first issue of the Methods and Practices Handbook is the culmination of a four year project involving the

efforts of a large number of scientists. This first release contains some eleven papers and reports covering such topics as Sample Preparation, Use of Standards, Diffractometer Design and Alignment, plus information on the use of the Powder Diffraction File. It is the intention to supplement this initial release with annual updates as indicated within the contents section of this release. The Editorial Staff of the Methods and Practices Handbook welcome any suggestions for improvements and correspondence should be addressed to Dr. Ron Jenkins at The International Centre for Diffraction Data, 1601 Park Lane, Swarthmore, PA 19081, U.S.A.

## WANTED

### Contributions of Data to The Powder Diffraction File

## REWARD

Powder data for publication in the Powder Diffraction File are obtained from the periodic review of more than 300 journals, grants-in-aid to various organizations, and from voluntary contributions. Contributed data constitute a large fraction of the File.

To encourage the submission of contributed data the JCPDS-International Centre for Diffraction Data has established a Recognition Award Program. This program awards a Certificate of Contribution indicating the number of patterns contributed and the PDF Set in which they were published. If ten or more patterns are contributed for publication in a given set, the contributor is awarded the choice of one of the JCPDS-ICDD secondary publications at no charge.

Patterns that improve on data currently in the File are appreciated since enhancement of the accuracy of the File is a major goal of the International Centre for Diffraction Data. Expansion of the number of materials represented in the File is quite important, therefore, patterns for phases not in the File are particularly welcome.

Anyone wishing to contribute data will be supplied, upon request to the address below, with a standard form for submission of data. The contributor will be notified when the data are received. After computer and editorial review, the contributor will receive a letter indicating the disposition of the data and a copy of the computer output. When the pattern has been nominated for inclusion in a set, a copy as it will appear on a PDF card and a Certificate of Contribution will be sent to the contributor. If the contributor has ten or more patterns published in the set, the contributor's choice of one of the JCPDS-ICDD's secondary publications will be awarded, free of charge.

Contributed data sent to the address below will be appreciated.

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