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Foreword

THIS PUBLICATION, *Petroleum Refining and Natural Gas Processing*, was sponsored by Committee D02 on Petroleum Products and Lubricants. This is Manual 58 in ASTM International's manual series.
To
Our families
Preface

Oil and gas have been the main sources of energy the world over for the past century and will remain important sources of energy for the first half of this century, and possibly beyond. Currently, more than 60 % of the world's energy is produced from oil and gas, and energy needs are increasing. In addition, oil and gas provide the main feedstocks for the petrochemical industry. World population is expected to increase to eight billion by 2030, which will demand an increase in energy of 40 % in the next two decades. With these increases in energy consumption it is becoming necessary to consider unconventional types of oils. Such oils, which are heavier, require more rigorous processing and treatment. The evolution of petroleum refining began with the birth of modern oil production in Pennsylvania in the nineteenth century. Current refineries are much more complex than those of a few decades ago and there is significant research concerning the development of more economical uses of available hydrocarbon resources.

In the past few decades there has been an increase in the number of publications that report advancements in the petroleum industry. Petroleum Refining and Natural Gas Processing is a continuation of those efforts and attempts to bring together the most recent advances in various areas of petroleum downstream activities, with an emphasis on economic and environmental considerations, heavy-oil processing, and new developments in oil and gas processing.

The primary goal of this book is to provide a comprehensive reference that covers the latest developments in all aspects of petroleum and natural gas processing in the downstream sector of the petroleum industry. It includes topics on economy and marketing, scheduling and planning, modeling and simulation, design and operation, inspection and maintenance, corrosion, environment, safety, storage and transportation, quality and process control, products specifications, management, biofuel processing and production, as well as other issues related to these topics. Every attempt has been made to avoid overlap between chapters, however, there are some topics that have been included in more than one chapter when relevant to both chapters. Another objective of this book is to describe the latest technology available to those working in the petroleum industry, especially designers, researchers, operators, managers, decision-makers, business people, and government officials. The petroleum industry is a diverse and complex industry and it is almost impossible to include all aspects of it in a single book. However, we tried to cover the most vital issues and we believe this is the most comprehensive resource published to date for use by people involved in this worldwide industry. We hope this contribution will be useful to them. In writing this book we benefited from the published works of many researchers, which are cited at the end of each chapter. We welcome comments and suggestions from readers.

More than 40 scientists, experts, and professionals from both academia and industry have cooperated and contributed to the 33 chapters in this book. Authors with years of experience made unique contributions not available in any similar publications. We are grateful to all of them for their efforts in bringing this book to fruition.

We also thank the large number of anonymous reviewers who went through lengthy manuscripts and provided us with their constructive comments and suggestions, which greatly enhanced the quality of the manual. Many publishers, organizations, and companies provided us with permission to use their published data, graphs, and figures and we thank them for their cooperation in supporting this publication effort.

We are also thankful to ASTM International for sponsoring publication of this book, especially to Kathy Dernoga, Monica Siperko, Marsha Firman, and other ASTM staff involved in this project. Kathy Dernoga's review and encouragement were essential to the completion of this work. The support and encouragement of Dr. George E. Totten, ASTM's Committee on Publications representative for this manual, is also appreciated. The reviewing process was managed and conducted by Christine Urso of the American Institute of Physics (AIP) and she was extremely cooperative in uploading the manuscripts to the online reviewing site, inviting reviewers, and handling of all manuscripts submitted for this manual. Also, many thanks to Rebecca L. Edwards, senior project manager at Cenveo Publisher Services for copyediting and production.

Finally, and most importantly, we thank our families for their patience, understanding, cooperation, and moral support, which were essential throughout this process.

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Contents

Preface .............................................................................................................................................. v

Chapter 1—Introduction ................................................................................................................... 1
M.R. Riazi, Semih Eser, José Luis Peña Diez, and Suresh S. Agrawal

Chapter 2—Feedstocks and Products of Crude Oil and Natural Gas Refineries ........................... 21
M.R. Riazi and Semih Eser

Chapter 3—Worldwide Statistical Data on Proven Reserves, Production, and Refining Capacities of Crude Oil and Natural Gas ................................................................................. 33
M.R. Riazi, Mohan S. Rana, and José Luis Peña Diez

Chapter 4—Properties, Specifications, and Quality of Crude Oil and Petroleum Products .......... 79
M.R. Riazi and Semih Eser

Chapter 5—Crude Oil Refining Processes ....................................................................................... 101
Semih Eser and M.R. Riazi

Chapter 6—Fluid Catalytic Cracking ................................................................................................ 127
Ravi Kumar Voolapalli, Chiranjeevi Thota, D.T. Gokak, N.V. Choudary, and M.A. Siddiqui

Chapter 7—Hydroisomerization of Paraffins in Light Naphthas and Lube Oils for Quality Improvement ............................................................................................................................ 159
B.L. Newalkar, N.V. Choudary, and M.A. Siddiqui

Chapter 8—Heavy-Oil Processing .................................................................................................... 177
Semih Eser and Jose Guitian

Chapter 9—Advances in Petroleum Refining Processes ................................................................... 197
Isao Mochida, Ray Fletcher, Shigeto Hatanaka, Hiroshi Toshima, Jun Inomata, Makato Inomata, Shinichi Inoue, Kazuo Matsuda, Shigeki Nagamatsu, and Shinichi Shimizu

Chapter 10—Advances in Catalysts for Refining Processes .............................................................. 223
Isao Mochida, Ray Fletcher, Shigeto Hatanaka, Hiroshi Toshima, Shigeki Nagamatsu, Makato Inomata, Rong He, Richard S. Threlkel, Christopher J. Dillon, Junko Ida, Toshio Matsuhisa, Shinichi Inoue, Shinichi Shimizu, and Kazuo Shoji

Chapter 11—Natural Gas Conditioning and Processing ................................................................. 249
Calogero Migliore

Chapter 12—Hydrogen Management ............................................................................................... 287
N. Zhang and F. Liu

Chapter 13—Design Aspects of Separation Units and Processing Equipment ................................. 305
M.C. Rodwell and M.R. Riazi

Chapter 14—Process Control and Instrumentation ......................................................................... 355
L. Raman and N.S. Murthy

Chapter 15—Modern Computer Process Control Refining Units .................................................. 375
Ravi Jaisinghani

Chapter 16—Refinery Inspection and Maintenance ........................................................................ 393
A.L. Kosta and Keshav Kishore

Chapter 17—Corrosion Inspection and Control in Refineries ......................................................... 437
Jorge L. Hau

Chapter 18—Product Analysis and Quality Control ......................................................................... 455
Pradeep Kumar and N.S. Murthy
## CONTENTS

Chapter 19—Fuel Blending Technology and Management ................................................. 473  
Suresh S. Agrawal

Chapter 20—Tank Farm Management ............................................................................. 499  
Suresh S. Agrawal

Chapter 21—Refinery Planning and Scheduling ............................................................... 531  
Nan Zhang and Marc Valleur

Chapter 22—Transportation of Crude Oil, Natural Gas, and Petroleum Products ............ 549  
Luis F. Ayala H.

Chapter 23—Introduction to Trading, Pricing, and Valuation of Crude Oils and Petroleum Products ................................................................. 577  
Cheng Seong Khor, Luis A. Ricardez-Sandoval, Ali Elkamel, and Nilay Shah

Chapter 24—A Review of Refinery Markets and Cost Estimation .................................... 597  
Mark J. Kaiser and James H. Gary

Miguel Bagajewicz

Chapter 26—Process Modeling and Simulation of Refineries ......................................... 647  
Maria J. Guerra, Pablo Jiménez-Asenjo, Antonio López-Rodríguez, and José L. Peña Díez

Chapter 27—Maintenance Simulation and Optimization in Refineries and Process Plants ................................................................. 675  
Miguel Bagajewicz

Chapter 28—Roles of Computers in Petroleum Refineries ............................................. 685  
Cheng Seong Khor and Ali Elkamel

Chapter 29—Environmental Issues Related to the Petroleum Refining Industry ............... 701  
Cheng Seong Khor and Ali Elkamel

Chapter 30—Safety Issues Related to Petroleum Refineries ....................................... 717  
Joel M. Haight

Chapter 31—Refinery Management ............................................................................... 729  
Folkert J. Herlyn

Chapter 32—Biofuels and Biorefineries .......................................................................... 747  
José Baro Calle

Chapter 33—Future Directions in Petroleum and Natural Gas Refining ......................... 769  
Mohan S. Rana, Jorge Ancheyta, M.R. Riazi, and Meena Marafi

Index .................................................................................................................................. 801
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