The past 30 years have seen the emergence worldwide of a growing desire to take positive actions to restore and protect the environment from the degrading effects of all forms of pollution: air, noise, solid waste, and water. Since pollution is a direct or indirect consequence of waste, the seemingly idealistic demand for “zero discharge” can be construed as an unrealistic demand for zero waste. However, as long as waste exists, we can only attempt to abate the subsequent pollution by converting it to a less noxious form. Three major questions usually arise when a particular type of pollution has been identified: (1) How serious is the pollution? (2) Is the technology to abate it available? and (3) Do the costs of abatement justify the degree of abatement achieved? The principal intention of the *Handbook of Environmental Engineering* series is to help readers to formulate answers to the last two questions.

The traditional approach of applying tried-and-true solutions to specific pollution problems has been a major contributing factor to the success of environmental engineering, and has accounted in large measure for the establishment of a “methodology of pollution control.” However, realization of the ever-increasing complexity and interrelated nature of current environmental problems renders it imperative that intelligent planning of pollution abatement systems be undertaken. Prerequisite to such planning is an understanding of the performance, potential, and limitations of the various methods of pollution abatement available for environmental engineering. In this series of handbooks, we will review at a tutorial level a broad spectrum of engineering systems (processes, operations, and methods) currently being utilized, or of potential utility, for pollution abatement. We believe that the unified interdisciplinary approach in these handbooks is a logical step in the evolution of environmental engineering.

The treatment of the various engineering systems presented in *Advanced Air and Noise Pollution Control* will show how an engineering formulation of the subject flows naturally from the fundamental principles and theory of chemistry, physics, and mathematics. This emphasis on fundamental science recognizes that engineering practice has in recent years become more firmly based on scientific principles rather than its earlier dependency on the empirical accumulation of facts. It is not intended, though, to neglect empiricism when such data lead quickly to the most economic design; certain engineering systems are not readily amenable to fundamental scientific analysis, and in these instances we have resorted to less science in favor of more art and empiricism.

Since an environmental engineer must understand science within the context of application, we first present the development of the scientific basis of a particular subject, followed by exposition of the pertinent design concepts and operations, and detailed explanations of their applications to environmental quality control or improvement. Throughout the series, methods of practical design calculation are illustrated by numerical examples. These examples
clearly demonstrate how organized, analytical reasoning leads to the most
direct and clear solutions. Wherever possible, pertinent cost data have been
provided.

Our treatment of pollution-abatement engineering is offered in the belief that
the trained engineer should more firmly understand fundamental principles, be
more aware of the similarities and/or differences among many of the engineering
systems, and exhibit greater flexibility and originality in the definition and innova-
tive solution of environmental pollution problems. In short, the environmental
engineer should by conviction and practice be more readily adaptable to change
and progress.

Coverage of the unusually broad field of environmental engineering has
demanded an expertise that could only be provided through multiple author-
ships. Each author (or group of authors) was permitted to employ, within rea-
sonable limits, the customary personal style in organizing and presenting a
particular subject area, and consequently it has been difficult to treat all subject
material in a homogeneous manner. Moreover, owing to limitations of space,
some of the authors’ favored topics could not be treated in great detail, and
many less important topics had to be merely mentioned or commented on
briefly. All of the authors have provided an excellent list of references at the
end of each chapter for the benefit of the interested reader. Since each of the
chapters is meant to be self-contained, some mild repetition among the various
texts is unavoidable. In each case, all errors of omission or repetition are the
responsibility of the editors and not the individual authors. With the current
trend toward metrication, the question of using a consistent system of units
has been a problem. Wherever possible the authors have used the British sys-
tem (fps) along with the metric equivalent (mks, cgs, or SIU) or vice versa. The
authors sincerely hope that this doubled system of unit notation will prove
helpful rather than disruptive to the readers.

The goals of the Handbook of Environmental Engineering series are: (1) to cover
the entire range of environmental fields, including air and noise pollution control,
solid waste processing and resource recovery, biological treatment processes,
water resources, natural control processes, radioactive waste disposal, thermal pol-
lution control, and physicochemical treatment processes; and (2) to employ a
multithematic approach to environmental pollution control since air, water, land,
and energy are all interrelated. Consideration is also given to the abatement of
specific pollutants, although the organization of the series is mainly based on the
three basic forms in which pollutants and waste are manifested: gas, solid, and
liquid. In addition, noise pollution control is included in this volume of the hand-
book.

This volume of Advanced Air and Noise Pollution Control, a companion to the
volume, Air Pollution Control Engineering, has been designed to serve as a basic
air pollution control design textbook as well as a comprehensive reference
book. We hope and expect it will prove of equally high value to advanced
undergraduate or graduate students, to designers of air pollution abatement
systems, and to scientists and researchers. The editors welcome comments
from readers in the field. It is our hope that this book will not only provide
information on the air and noise pollution abatement technologies, but will
also serve as a basis for advanced study or specialized investigation of the
theory and practice of the unit operations and unit processes covered.

The editors are pleased to acknowledge the encouragement and support re-
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