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Book news

1. Books on management

The following are available from Knowledge Resources, P.O. Box 3954, Randburg 2125.

- *Competitive advantage of nations*, by Professor Michael Porter from Harvard Business School.

This book highlights the importance of industries in contributing towards national competitiveness. It is being regarded as one of the 10 best business books published during 1990.

- *The borderless world*, by Kenichi Ohmae, Managing Director of McKinsey in Japan.

This deals with business in the new interlinked economy.

- *Megatrends 2000*, by John Naisbitt and Patricia Aburdene.

This book outlines the mega/macro trends that will

affect the international community during the 1990s.

- *Trends transforming South Africa*, edited by Tony Manning. This deals with the future of this country.

- *Incredible bosses*, by David Freemantle.

In a punchy and amusing style, the author explores the various factors that have an impact on credibility, integrity and, consequently, managerial competence and business success.

2. Directory of learned societies

The following title is available from Academic Book Corporation, C-1491, Talkatora A.V.C., Lucknow 226 017, India at US\$85 per copy.

- *Management in learned societies*

The book highlights various administrative matters that are useful to learned societies and similar organizations.

Book review

- *Column flotation*, by J.A. Finch and G.S. Dobby. Oxford, Pergamon Press, 1990. 180 pp.

Reviewer: B.K. Loveday

Column flotation was first applied commercially in 1981 (for cleaning), and since that time interest in this new type of flotation cell has grown tremendously. An improvement in performance and a reduction in capital and operating costs have been demonstrated. Professors Finch and Dobby are acknowledged experts in the field, particularly in modelling and scale-up.

The book is a step-by-step analysis of the fundamentals involved in column flotation. The design and control variables (i.e. air velocity, slurry velocity, wash-water flow, etc.) are discussed, and their effects are demonstrated. Equations or models are quoted, and in some cases

are used to simulate interactions between the variables, but the style is essentially descriptive and relatively easy to follow. Figures are used extensively to illustrate effects.

The authors have concentrated on the fundamentals but have included some design details. For example, they give a discussion on the depth of immersion of the water sparger. The book concludes with simulations of various circuit arrangements and case studies in which pilot-plant and full-scale data are compared.

This is the first comprehensive treatise on column flotation, and it provides a useful framework of logic for an understanding of plant performance. As such, it will certainly be a useful reference for universities, technikons, and R&D departments. It is a 'must' for flotation specialists.