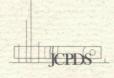
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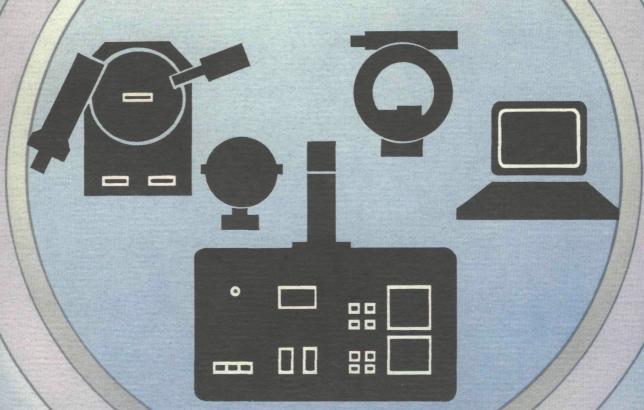
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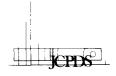
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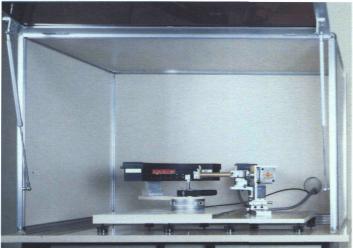
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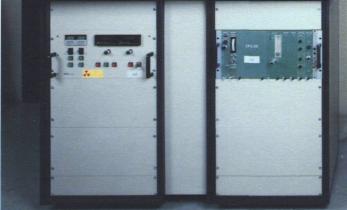
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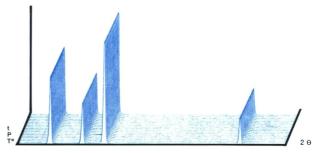
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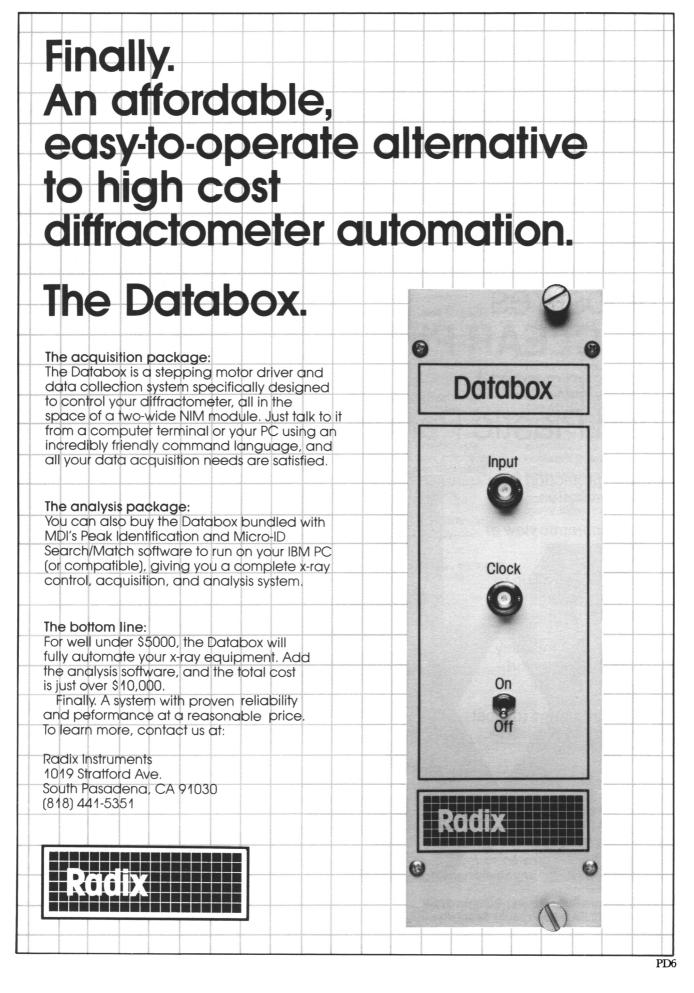
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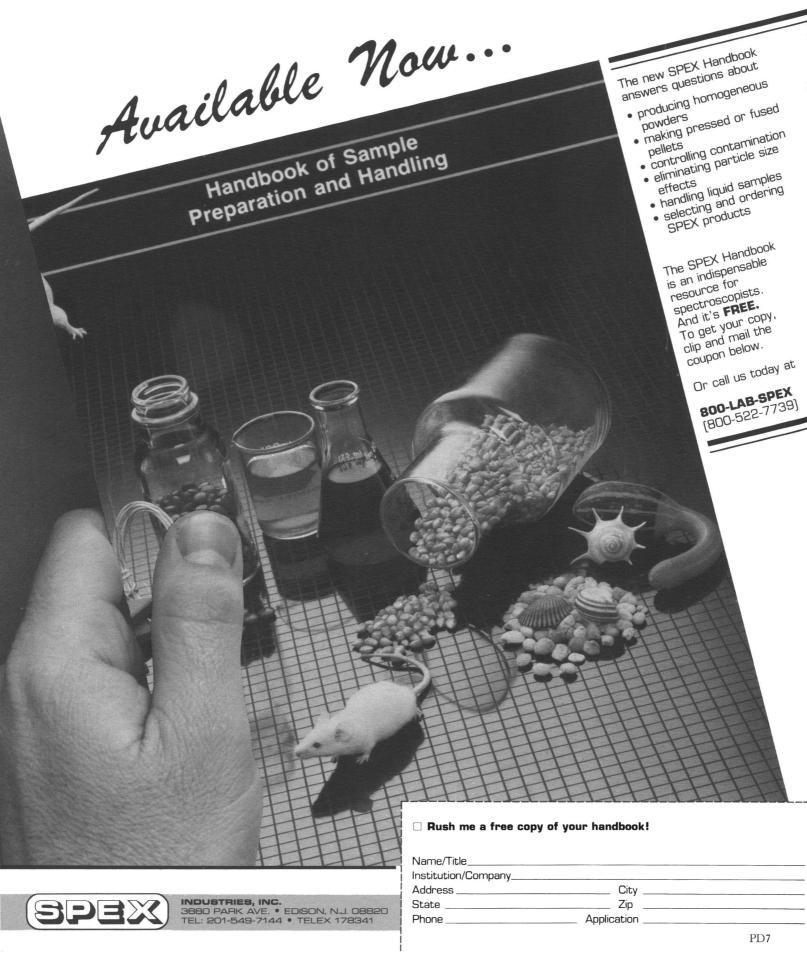
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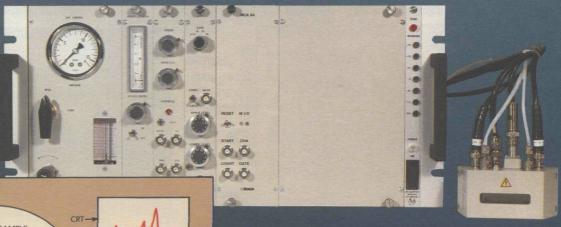
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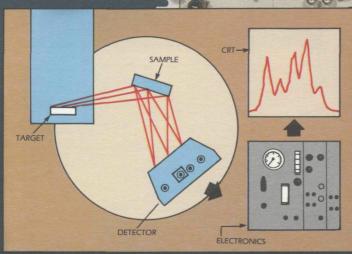
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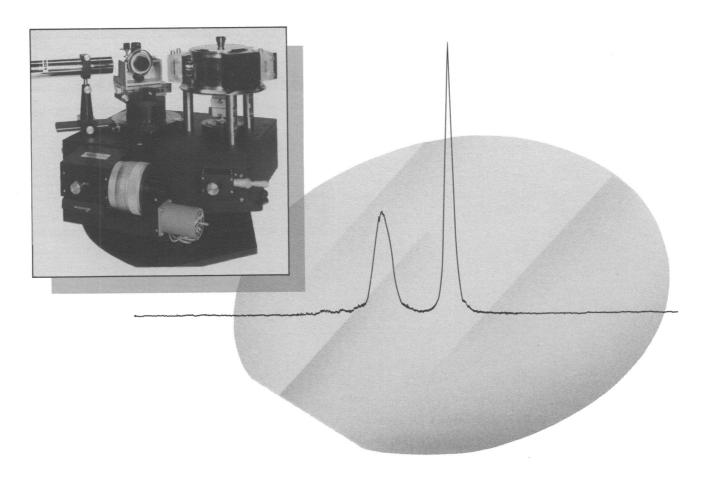
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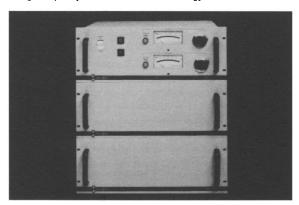
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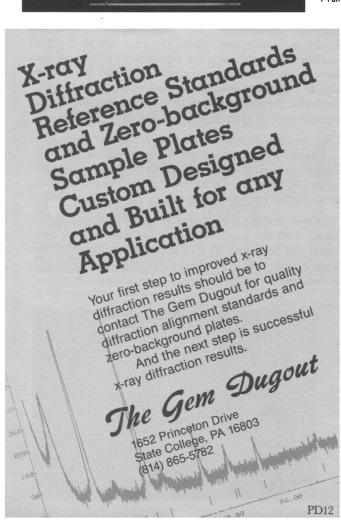
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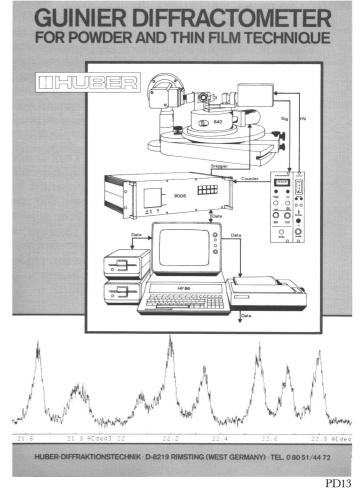
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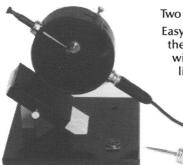
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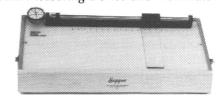
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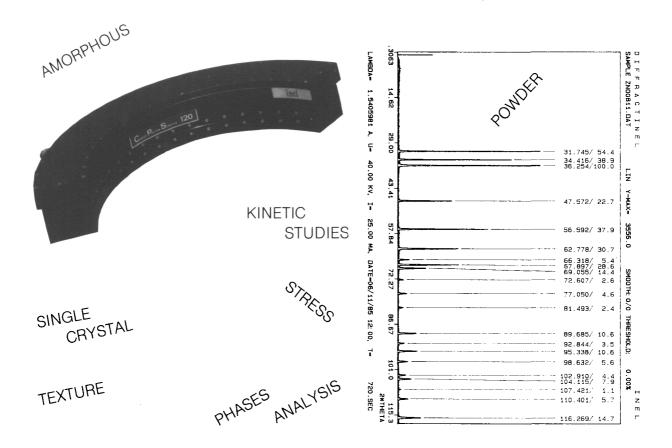
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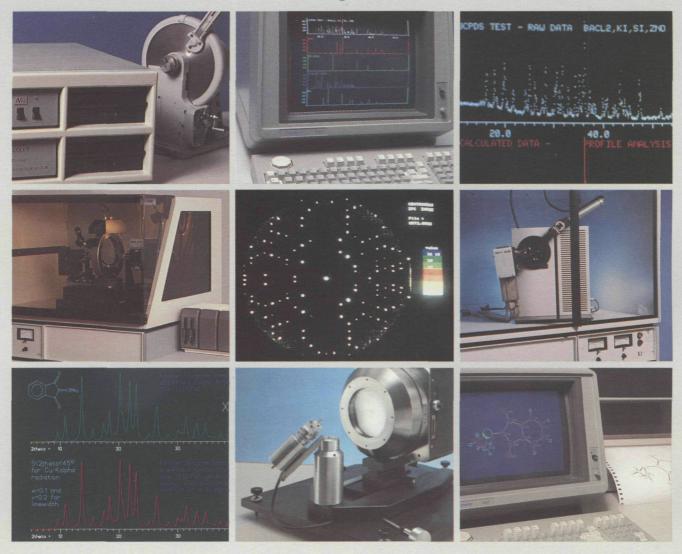
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Nicolet's developments in new computer hardware, diffractometer design, and our unequaled SHELXTL software provide simultaneous data collection and structure determination to solve virtually every crystal sample analyzed to date. And now, the addition of the Xentronics<sup>TM</sup> high-resolution area detector, with its ten-fold increase in data collection speed, significantly expands previously limited research

studies of macromolecular structures, and promises extensive new capabilities in the immediate future for powder diffraction, thin film and polymer analysis, and Laue crystal orientation studies.

For more information on Nicolet's new developments in x-ray diffraction, write to us on your company or department letterhead for a copy of our RefleXions Newsletter. Send your request, attention Barbara Brink, to:



### **Editorial**

### Presentation of Reference Data in Powder Diffraction

One of the purposes for creating *Powder Diffraction* was to provide a medium for the publication of new diffraction data. The first three issues have included data produced by the Research Associateship of the International Centre for Diffraction Data and other laboratories. The papers illustrate several formats which can be followed in the presentation of powder data.

Many compounds examined in the modern laboratory produce patterns superior to those presently in the Powder Diffraction File. Often, there is little time in the rush of the project to devote much effort to preparing a formalized description of compound, the data, and the documentation. Consequently, much useful data is lost to the scientific community. I would like to suggest a procedure to rescue these data and provide recognition to the experimentalist who collects the data.

The data published by the Research Associateship exemplifies the useful documentation organized in a concise manner along with the complete listing of the diffraction pattern. These tables can serve as a model to diffractionists who wish to prepare data sets for submission. Of course, the diffraction data is the most important component of the information, but it is more valuable with as much documentation as is possible. Conditions and diffraction parameters for the data collection and the description of the compound, both its chemistry and synthesis, need to be supplied by the submitter. Crystallographic data should also be supplied as far as it is known. If the pattern can be indexed and refined to determine the best-fit cell parameters, the information is desirable. However, all patterns submitted will be processed through the EXAIDS review program, and this check will confirm the indexing as well as much of the other information supplied and produce a refined cell along with the figures-of-merit. For any diffractionist who will take the time to supply this basic data to the editorial staff, we will process the data through EXAIDS and prepare the data tables and supporting information for a short article in Powder Diffraction if the data prove to be an improvement on the existing pattern.

The International Centre for Diffraction Data does have a standard form which is used by many diffractionists for submission of data. Copies of this form will be supplied on request. The Notes for Authors published in the first issue also contains guidelines for documenting powder data. These guidelines were prepared by a committee of the American Crystallographic Association and accepted by the International Union of Crystallography. They were published in detail in National Bureau of Standards Special Publication 567 (1980). These guidelines resulted when a committee examined the quality of powder data available at the time and made recommendations to improve the status of these data. One of the major recommendations was the preservation of the original diffraction data, i.e. the  $2\theta$ values, and the analysis of errors based on these values. This decision was based on the linearity of errors on the  $2\theta$  scale and on the non-linearity of errors on the d-spacing scale. The effect is to require that the  $2\theta$  values be reported along with the rest of the data, so that EXAIDS can properly evaluate the accuracy of the data.

Diffractionists should not be discouraged from submitting data just because it does not meet all the requirements listed in the guidelines or match the quality of the data produced by the Research Associateship. This quality of data demands a considerable amount of time in the data collection. Any data set which is an improvement of existing data is useful. Some compounds may never yield this quality of data. For experimentalists who have a stock of compounds for which data should be collected, but who have no support for the time, may wish to consider the Grant-in-Aid program of the International Centre. It is designed to provide funding to support the data collection in just such situations.

This request for submission of experimental data is not meant to discourage the preparation of more detailed papers describing crystal-chemical studies and data analysis. It is not the desire of *Powder Diffraction* to establish a required format for all data presentation. However, such a format may encourage a lot of diffractionists to publish data which they would not otherwise take the time to prepare. If this effort does prove successful, we will start a section devoted to data sets and assign this section to a special editor for data. Go to your files, pull out those data sets and send in the necessary information.

Deane K. Smith Editor-in-Chief