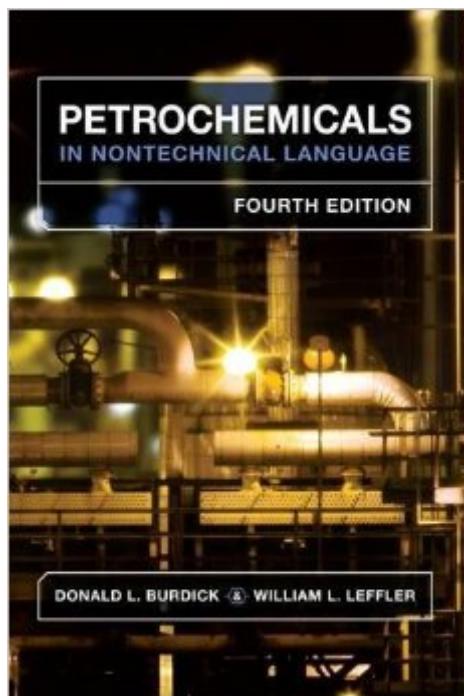


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# Petrochemicals In Nontechnical Language



## **Synopsis**

Authors Don Burdick and Bill Leffler have completely rewritten this time-honored bestseller, now the definitive book for understanding the mysteries of the petrochemical industry. With chapters on all the base chemicals and derivatives, plus seven new ones covering the Fischer-Tropsch process, polyurethane, epoxy resins and more, this is broadest available look inside the industry. Still offering readers easy-to-understand diagrams, charts and tables, plus digestible chapter reviews - this classic delivers the information that every person in the industry needs.

## **Book Information**

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## **Customer Reviews**

William L. Leffler received his BS from M.I.T. and masters and doctorate degrees in business administration from New York University. Following his career with Royal Dutch/Shell in the upstream, downstream, and petrochemicals business, he became a writer and consultant. He has authored multiple PennWell titles including the bestselling Petroleum Refining in Nontechnical Language (2000), Petrochemicals in Nontechnical Language (2001), and Deepwater Petroleum Exploration & Production: A Nontechnical Guide (2003).

I have been working in the petrochemical industry as a financial advisor for 15 years. I often have to interact with chemical engineers in various aspects of my profession. This book has provided me a clear understanding of the complex petrochemical industry and its various processes. When chemical engineers use terms, such as, solvent extraction, extractive

distillation, adsorption, dehydrogenation, hydroformylation and the like, I am not only able to understand what is being said but I have often been able to respond effectively by asking pertinent questions in an area in which I am not an expert. In order to wade smoothly through the book it is essential for the non-technical person to read and re-read the first chapter which provides all of the chemistry that you will need for the rest of the book. Even this first chapter has been written to make anyone understand the required chemistry. Each of the subsequent chapters is devoted to different petrochemicals and lucidly explains the chemistry, the manufacturing processes, the uses of the chemicals being discussed, the handling of the chemical, etc. Simplified diagrams of the manufacturing plant and various processes have helped me to quickly grasp the required essentials. The chapters have been written in an easy to understand language with a touch of humor. I would advise all technical and non-technical persons working for firms in the petrochemical industry to buy this book and keep it accessible at all times.

As someone in the petrochemicals industry, I wanted to buy a comprehensive reference book so to start understanding the relations between feed stocks & prices and to look at the market in a wider perspective, etc. There are rather limited number of available reference books in this topic, so I bought this book automatically. But, I almost became addicted to this book, reviewing it 10 mins everyday and still learn something new everyday. The book starts with a general overview of the organic chemicals with reference to atomic structure & periodic table. Then, all the monomers, important hydrocarbons are explained in detail along with production methods and application areas.

Excellent book for learning about the basic layout of petrochemical facilities and how the units all tie together. One nice feature is the book deals with the economics and ways a specific stream can be diverted to other processes.

It needs to be updated

The book is received totally as expected. Thank you.

great reference book for process industry professionals.

It is awesome! I just love it, it has helped me a lot.

Best available introduction to the petrochemicals industry from a technical perspective

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