

Introducing  
**CURRENT ABSTRACTS OF CHEMISTRY  
 AND INDEX CHEMICUS<sup>T.M.</sup>**

November 28, 1969

For ten years, the Institute for Scientific Information (ISI)<sup>®</sup> has provided chemists with the only current weekly guide to published reports on new compounds and new reactions—*Index Chemicus*<sup>®</sup>. With the present volume, we will complete the record of a decade's advance in synthetic chemistry.

Several years ago, our Editorial Advisory Board, and then many of our subscribers, began to ask, "Why only synthetic chemistry?" And we have been forced to acknowledge that our answer must be "Why indeed?" For there is just as great a need for current weekly information in other areas of chemical specialization—agricultural, biological, industrial, inorganic, macromolecular, organic, pharmaceutical, polymer, physical chemistry. Chemists in all these fields have asked us for an information service that will do for them what *Index Chemicus* has been doing so successfully for their colleagues in organic and inorganic synthesis—publish, on a weekly basis, abstracts of all significant articles, within a month of their appearance in primary journals.

Earlier this year, ISI's Board of Directors decided that *Index Chemicus* should go all the way! And so, with the first issue for 1970, *Index Chemicus* will become *Current Abstracts of Chemistry and Index Chemicus*.

*Index Chemicus*, as it exists today, will become a section of the new publication. It will continue to report on new compounds and new reactions with the same graphic abstracts familiar to its users. This new-compound/new-reaction section of *Current Abstracts of Chemistry* will, of course, be larger than *Index Chemicus* has been in the past. (*Index Chemicus* has

grown an average 10% a year since we began its publication in 1960. The 1969 volumes, for example, will contain about 20% more material than the 1968 volumes.) But as a whole, *Current Abstracts of Chemistry* will be more than twice as large as *Index Chemicus*. During its first year, we expect to publish 50,000 abstracts from the journals on which chemists most heavily rely.

During the past ten years, we at ISI have made an extensive study of chemists' use of the periodical literature, as that use is reflected in their citation of journal titles when they report their own work. In our studies, we have found that a core of about 100 journals can be said to publish 98% of the papers judged by chemists themselves to have been most significant for chemical research. *Current Abstracts of Chemistry* will publish abstracts of all articles from these core journals. In addition, abstracts of 25 to 50% of the articles from another 100 journals will be regularly included. Finally, from weekly computer scanning of magnetic tapes prepared for ISI's multidisciplinary *Science Citation Index*<sup>®</sup>, *Current Abstracts of Chemistry* will publish abstracts of articles reporting new compounds, new reactions, new methodologies, as they appear in some 2500 other journals in chemistry and related disciplines.

In *Current Abstracts of Chemistry*, the report on each article will consist of full bibliographical description and the author's abstracts or summary. When papers report new compounds, the abstract will include as well structural formulae, reaction-flow diagrams, a description of methods used to isolate and identify the compounds, as well as a profile of their biological activities

and other potential uses. As I've indicated above, the present *Index Chemicus* will be continued as a section of the new publication. The title *Index Chemicus* will be retained for multiple indexes to *Current Abstracts of Chemistry*. The new *Index Chemicus* will be issued monthly, and cumulated semiannually and annually. It will contain author, journal, molecular-formula, use-profile, and subject indexes. The subject indexes will be of the *Permuterm*<sup>®</sup> type, designed originally by ISI for the *Science Citation Index* but modified by enriching title key-words with terms from the author's text.

Subscribers will receive the new publication on the basis of the same subscription rates announced earlier this year for *Index Chemicus* in its present form—\$1100 a year for industrial organizations, and \$750 a year for educational subscribers. (On multiple-subscription orders, the rate drops to \$200 for each additional section.) All base subscriptions of course include both abstract and index sections. With *Current Abstracts of Chemistry* ISI will continue the unique policy for current awareness begun recently with *Index Chemicus*. Our emphasis in broadening the scope of *Index Chemicus* into that of *Current Abstracts of Chemistry* will be currency of publication. But we wish also to encourage and to facilitate currency of use. Therefore, all subscribers will receive two

copies of the abstract section at the basic subscription rate—one copy for use in a library or central office, the other for circulation and routing.

As *Current Abstracts of Chemistry, Index Chemicus* in its second decade takes on a new form and breadth designed to make it more useful to present subscribers and equally useful to their colleagues. We believe that this new venture, on the solid foundation of ISI's experience in scientific information processing, will prove as significant a development in chemical documentation as was the initiation of *Index Chemicus* ten years ago.

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ISI also provides several other services of interest to chemists. For details, contact Charles E. Granito, Manager, Chemical Information Services.

In Philadelphia: ISI, 325 Chestnut St., Philadelphia, Pa. 19106, Tel: (215) 923-3300. In Washington, D.C.: contact ISI, 7315 Wisconsin Ave., Bethesda, Md. 20014, Tel: (301) 657-2366. In Europe: contact Mr. A. Cawkell, 132 High Street, Uxbridge, Middlesex, England, Tel: Uxbridge 30085 or Mr. P. Aborn, 49 Avenue Paul Doumer, Paris-16ème, France, Tel: 870-80-58. In Japan: contact Mr. T. Yamakawa, Tsutsumi Building, 13-12 1-chome, Shimbashi, Minato-Ku, Tokyo, Japan, Tel: (591) 5181-6.