IUPAC Projects

SCOPE/IUPAC International Symposium on Endocrine Active Substances

The Scientific Committee on Problems of the Environment (SCOPE) and IUPAC are jointly organizing an International Project on "Environmental Implications of Endocrine Active Substances: Present State of the Art and Future Research Needs." The project started in April 2000 and is scheduled to be completed in March 2003. The SCOPE/IUPAC International Symposium on Endocrine Active Substances, to be held 17-21 November 2002 in Yokohama, Japan, will constitute a major milestone for the project. All of the project contributors (ca. 60 experts) will present papers dealing with the following topics:

- Molecular Mode of Action of Nuclear Receptors; Fundamentals for Understanding the Action of Endocrine Active Substances
- Environmental Fate and Metabolism of Endocrine Active Substances
- Effects of Endocrine Active Chemicals in Rodents and Humans, and Risk Assessments for Humans
- Effects of Endocrine Active Substances in Wildlife Species

In addition, six supplementary workshops will be held:

- Effectiveness of QSAR for prescreening of endocrine disruptor hazard
- Toxicogenomics as a rational approach to endocrine disruptor research
- The need for establishing integrated monitoring programs
- Simple, rapid assay for conventional definitive testings of endocrine disruptor hazard
- Precautionary principle/approach and weight of evidence in endocrine disruptor issues
- Risk management options for endocrine disruptors in national and international programs

See the symposium announcement in *CI*, Vol. 23, No. 5, p. 156, September 2001.

http://www.iupac.org/projects/2000/2000-016-1-600.html

Highlights from Pure and Applied Chemistry

Presenting recently published IUPAC technical reports and recommendations

Generic Source-Based Nomenclature for Polymers (IUPAC Recommendations 2001)

by E. Maréchal and E. S. Wilks
Pure and Applied Chemistry, Vol. 73, No. 9, pp. 1511-1519 (2001).

Present-day high-performance polymer materials are becoming increasingly difficult to name concisely with existing macromolecular nomenclature. Simple and practical names that refer to the monomer source (i.e., source-based nomenclature) are therefore highly desirable; thus, the rules that lead to such names need to be spelled out. That task was undertaken by an international group of experts of the former IUPAC Commission on Macromolecular Nomenclature. Their recent recommendations on generic source-based nomenclature for polymers describe an unambiguous naming system that is as rigorous as, but more practical than, structure-based nomenclature. This generic naming system complements the earlier source-based method, which in some cases leads to ambiguous names.

A generic source-based name comprises two parts:

1. polymer class (generic) name followed by a colon;

2. the actual or hypothetical monomer name(s) (source), always parenthesized in the case of a copolymer. (See figure for an example.)

In this document, five rules are presented and illustrated by 20 examples; the formula, the structure-based name, the source-based name, and the generic source-based name of the polymer are given for each example.