

# OPTICAL THIN FILMS

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## USER HANDBOOK



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SPIE OPTICAL ENGINEERING PRESS

A Publication of SPIE—The International Society for Optical Engineering  
Bellingham, Washington USA

**Library of Congress Cataloging-in-Publication Data**

Rancourt, James D.

Optical thin films : user handbook / James D. Rancourt.

p. cm.

Includes bibliographical references and index.

ISBN 0-8194-2285-1 (hardcover)

1. Optical coatings. 2. Thin films—Optical properties.

3. Optical films. 4. Light filters. I. Title.

TS517.2.R36 1996

621.3815'2—dc20

96-28046

CIP

Published by

SPIE—The International Society for Optical Engineering

PO Box 10

Bellingham, Washington 98227-0010

Phone: 360/676-3290 Fax: 360/647-1445

E-mail: [spie@spie.org](mailto:spie@spie.org)

WWW: <http://www.spie.org/>

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Originally published in 1987 by Macmillan Publishing Company, New York.

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Printed in the United States of America.

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# Preface

This book is intended for the user of optical thin film products. Its primary aim is in the area of commercially available products: their preparation techniques and their characteristics. It is hoped that this will help users to specify filters, and to be aware of the limitations they might encounter in using them.

The reader interested in a design textbook is directed to a companion volume in this series written by Alfred Thelen entitled *Design of Optical Interference Coatings*.

The vast majority of the discussions in this text are independent of the method of deposition used—evaporation, sputtering, ion plating, epitaxial growth, or other scheme of depositing optical films. The emphasis is on pragmatic information that one needs when using, specifying, or designing into an optical system an optical interference filter.

## **A NOTE ON THE STYLE USED**

In writing this book, the ubiquity of the computer—handheld, desktop, and main-frame—models, has led to the decision to minimize the number of tables of com-

puted values in favor of curves and formulas. The curves hopefully give the reader a feeling of the phenomenon described by an equation. If precise values are required, they can be easily obtained from the equations.

## **ACKNOWLEDGMENTS**

The support given to me by my employer, O.C.L.I., during the effort of writing this book, is gratefully acknowledged.

I want to acknowledge the help my colleagues and co-workers gave me in answering my many questions in a friendly and helpful way, and for the many suggestions they offered. In particular, I thank Shari Powell Fisher who wrote the BASIC program included in Appendix C, and Jacques Cote, who drew the figures and then cheerfully revised them as I changed my mind about them.

I owe a debt of gratitude and many thanks to Joseph Apfel for his very constructive critique of the manuscript.

Any errors, faults, or omissions in this book are not the fault of any of those mentioned above; they are solely those of the author.

Finally, I thank my family, and especially my wife, Jeannine, for all of her help, patience, and understanding during the writing of this book.