

Volume D of Int. Tables: «Physical Properties of Crystals»

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Volume D was published at the end of 2003 and 477 copies have already been sold in 2004. It is therefore off to a good start. It has 522 pages and 18 Chapters distributed in three parts: 1. Tensorial aspects of physical properties, 2. Symmetry aspects of excitations, 3. Symmetry aspects of structural phase transitions, twinning and domain structures. It is accompanied by a CDROM with two pieces of software: *Ten~~x~~ar* (calculations with tensors and characters) and *GI*KoBo-1* supporting Part 3 on structural phase transitions.

One planned Chapter didn't materialize because its potential author failed to deliver his manuscript on time, that on the "Tensorial aspects of dielectric properties". This is a very important topic in which there are new developments and new applications. If a Second Edition is considered, a new Chapter on that topic should be commissioned. Plans are already under way for such a tentative Second Edition. For instance, several Chapters bear on rapidly evolving topics, such as non-linear optics and will need updating; one Section in the Chapter on Twinning was omitted because of lack of time, that on the X-ray observations of twins and it needs to be added. When Volume D goes online, this will open up many interesting possibilities for interactive consultation.

Keywords: physical properties of crystals, tensor properties, phase transitions