

## **CONTENTS**

### **CHAPTER 1 INTRODUCTION**

The Oldest Samples	1
'Discovery' of Rubber	2
Early Uses of Rubber	3
Vulcanisation	4
Activation, Acceleration and Cure Kinetics	5
Effect of Other Ingredients	7
Crosslinking Mechanisms	8

### **CHAPTER 2 CURE CHARACTERISTICS**

Chemical Kinetics	10
Cure Shape	13
Definitions	14
Optimum Cure	14
State of Cure	15
Rate of Cure	15
Best Technical Cure	15
Scorch Time	16
Methods of Interpretation	16
Scorch Time and Heat History	17
Heat History	17
Residual Scorch Time	17
Temperature Dependence	18

### **CHAPTER 3 BASIC HEAT TRANSFER THEORY AND CALCULATIONS**

Theory	22
Exact Solutions	24
Negligible Surface Resistance	25
Calculations	26
Example one	26
Discussion	27
Example two	30
Example three	30
Example four	33
Finite Surface Resistance	35
Graphical Methods	37

Numerical Methods	41
Example five	42
Example six	47
Example seven	49
Example eight	52
Application of Different Methods	55
Calculation of State of Cure	56
General	59
Summary	60

#### **CHAPTER 4 INTERPRETATION OF CURE CHARACTERISTICS**

Mooney Cure Test	63
The Wallace-Shawbury Curometer	68
Monsanto Oscillating-Disk Rheometer	72
Other Instruments	75
The Viscurometer	76
The Cepar Apparatus	76
The Agfa Vulkameter	76
Comparison of Instruments	77
Heat Transfer in Specimens	77
Test Temperatures	78
Temperature Coefficient of Vulcanisation	80

#### **CHAPTER 5 PRACTICAL CURING**

Curing Methods	87
Absence of External Heat	87
External Heating	88
Hot air curing	89
Liquid curing medium (LCM)	90
General	91
Moulding Processes	91
Shrinkage of Moulded Articles	94
State of Cure	97
Simulation Techniques	98
Example 1 (theoretical)	100
Example 2 (practical)	101
Mathematical Treatment	103
Profile Vulcanisation	104
Graphical Methods	105
Heat History	107

Porosity	109
Effect of Cure Kinetics	110
Effect of Temperature and Thickness	110
Example 3	111
Example 4	111
Effect of State of Cure	112
Summary	113
Appendix	122
Index	131