POSTSCRIPT

In this book I have presented the appreciation and experience I have gained from a number of years working in electrostatics. I have not attempted to cover every aspect of electrostatics – so this is not an academic textbook. I hope it will prove useful for people with a practical interest in electrostatics and with a need to make and understand measurements.

My work at John Chubb Instrumentation over the last 24 years has involved two main aspects – first, the design and development of instruments and appropriate related methods for measurement; and second, consultancy work for a variety of customers. These areas have provided very useful interaction. On one hand I have been able to use JCI instruments to help understand and comment upon customer problems and suggest prospective routes for solution. On the other hand the contact with practical and industrial situations has fed usefully into the design and facilities provided by JCI instruments. There has been good synergy. These two sides have also provided the basis for the useful number of papers I have been able to publish over the years.

Much of the consultancy work has involved a day on-site and a day in preparation of a report. Some studies have been longer, for example the studies on solvent extraction operations in Chile, and some have involved several further testing of samples for a number of customers. One basic problem from my experience in consultancy (and this includes the consultancy work I did while at UKAEA Culham Lab) is that rarely does one have much involvement with the outcome or consequences of one's consultancy work. One does not see either the practical problems of implementing one's recommendations or the economic costs or benefits. In this respect there is little feedback to benefit future consultancy work. For these reasons I am glad the manufacturing side of the business of JCI has been the dominant activity – at about 85%. This is not to belittle the value of consultancy, but to keep it in perspective.

Over the years I feel I have made useful contributions to the area of electrostatic measurements by, for example:

- development of fieldmeters (in particular those not needing earthing of the rotating chopper)
- development of fieldmeters able to make measurements in adverse weather conditions
- development of instrumentation and methods for assessing materials by corona charge decay
- development of the concept of capacitance loading
- methods for measuring the electrostatic shielding of materials
- methods for the calibration of electrostatic measuring instruments.

The main satisfaction from the work over the last 24 years at JCI has been from the large number of JCI instruments in use in many and varied industries around the world. A number of companies evidently rely on JCI measurements on a regular and continuing basis. This shows we must have done something right from the point of view of users! When the merits of the approaches to measurements we have developed come to be more widely recognised it is hoped that these will lead in constructive discussion in committees considering International Standards.