Powder Diffraction provides this column as a service to its readers and as such, cannot be held liable for the success or failure of program software or system hardware described here. The editors reserve the right to determine the suitability of any contribution for inclusion. While this column is part of the International Report Section, it is compiled and "ideated" by:

Roy Garvey
Department of Chemistry
North Dakota State University
Fargo, ND 58105-5516, U S A
BITNET address NU025304@NDSUVM1
to whom contributions and comments should be directed, and by:

Mark Holomany JCPDS-International Centre for Diffraction Data 1601 Park Lane Swarthmore, PA 19081-2389, USA

Commercial Announcements

Materials Data, Inc., (MDI), is pleased to announce that Radix Instrument has merged as a Division of MDI.

Radix Instruments makes the widely accepted DATABOX, a computer-controlled module for automation of X-ray diffraction and fluorescence instruments. MDI will assume responsibility for all marketing, sales and service of the DATABOX. Dr. Douglas Whiting, founder of Radix Instruments, will continue his association with the Radix Division as Technical Director.

MDI produces a complete line of PC software for the X-ray powder diffraction laboratory. In addition to data analysis codes to process raw data from diffractometers equipped with a DATABOX or other automation units, MDI routines provide search/matching using the JCPDS-ICDD CD-ROM or subfiles, profile fitting, pattern simulations as well as cell indexing and refinements. Quintin Johnson, President of MDI, said, "MDI has plans for further offerings. For example, this quarter we began shipping a new code for full pattern refinement using the Rietveld method, complete with a database handler for crystal structure information."

MDI and Radix have worked in close alliance for over five years, meeting with great success in marketing their products. The merger will permit a focus of more resources on enhancing the product line to meet the needs of a wider segment of the analytical X-ray community.

Materials Data, Inc., may be reached by mail at Post Office Box 791, Livermore, CA 94550, USA, or by telephone at (415) 449-1084.