BOOK REVIEW

Fundamentals of Packaging Dynamics

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This book is intended as a reference work for those who design protective packaging for products moving in physical distribution and aims to provide a better understanding of the dynamic behavior of products in packages. Tables, graphs, and charts from a variety of sources provide the user with handy references for distribution environment, testing, and some materials.

The objective of this book is clearly defined in its preface but often misses the intended audience when higher knowledge of mathematics and physics are assumed in development of formulae and relationships. The book has the flavor of one written by theoretical authors of high education and seems intended for students or those with engineering degrees. It is not generally useful or easily understood by most of those who could use such information in the field.

The discussions of vibration will be particularly difficult for many to follow. The treatise on shock is more easily understood, but the development of package cushion design is weak since it relies mostly on theoretical linear cushioning materials rather than real-life ones with nonlinear characteristics.

The book is well organized, clear, and concise. It will be a good college text for package engineering courses when used in conjunction with industry handbooks.