

# TERMINOLOGY

In the earlier of the original manuscripts, first published in *Pure and Applied Chemistry*, which make up the chapters of this book, it was the practice to cross reference definitions within parentheses as follows: (see Definition xx). Whilst beneficial, this led to extensive interruption to the flow of definitions, so throughout this edition of the *Compendium of Polymer Terminology and Nomenclature*, a practice that is now adopted as standard in the preparation of documents under the auspices of the Subcommittee on Polymer Terminology is used, i.e., terms defined elsewhere in the same chapter are italicized.

A substantial number of definitions in the terminology section are either of physical quantities or are expressed mathematically. In such cases, there are recommended symbols for the quantities and, when appropriate, corresponding SI units. Other terms have common abbreviations. The following format is used to indicate these essential characteristics: **name of term (abbreviation)**, symbol, SI unit: unit. Typical examples are: **tensile stress**,  $\sigma$ , SI unit: Pa; **interpenetrating polymer network (IPN)**. If there are any, alternative names or synonyms follow on the next line, and the definition on the succeeding lines.

