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## Volume Editor's Preface

Volume 33 of **Science of Synthesis** covers useful methods for the synthesis of Ene—X compounds, where X = S, Se, Te, N, and P. The reader will appreciate that a tremendous variety of compounds playing a central role in organic chemistry are included in this contribution. Substrates containing these functional groups serve as prominent and even archetypal electrophiles or nucleophiles in further synthetic transformations, and some are considered among the most important dienophiles in concerted cycloaddition reactions as well. Additionally, some of the functional groups included in this volume are playing an increasingly important role in molecules that possess significant biological activity.

The volume was ultimately divided into 46 discrete sections, divided unequally among the various atom types that comprise the focus of the volume. The seemingly endless variety of synthetic methods that can be utilized to approach the various substructures provides a serious challenge to anyone hoping to organize and select the best methods of synthesis of these materials, but this challenge has been met admirably by a dedicated and talented group of authors. I extend my sincere gratitude to these authors, who have devoted enormous effort to collect and critically analyze the primary literature concerning the synthesis of these classes of compounds. Their heroic efforts have made my job easy.

I would like to thank everyone who has assisted the effort at each and every point along the way. Thanks go to Dr. Joe Richmond who started me along the way in this odyssey, and was instrumental in establishing the outline of the volume. The support at Thieme has been incredible, and in particular I wish to extend my sincerest gratitude to Dr. Fiona Shortt de Hernandez, Dr. Colin Baillie, Dr. Mark Smith, and Dr. Marcus White for all of their advice and tremendous support.

### Volume Editor

Gary A. Molander

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