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This book constitutes the refereed proceedings of the 14th International Conference on Pattern Recognition and Information Processing, PRIP 2019, held in Minsk, Belarus, in May 2019. The 25 revised full papers were carefully reviewed and selected from 120 submissions. The papers of this volume are organized in topical sections on pattern recognition and image analysis; information processing and applications.

Concept Cars is an illustrated guide to 70 of the most creative products of car design. From the science fiction inspired concept cars of the 1950s to the remarkably innovative designs of the present day, here are the cars that push the boundaries of automotive design to the limit. Featured are designs that opened the doors to future innovations, as well as the cars that actually made it to production, such as the new VW Beetle and the Porsche Boxster. Key car designers such as Norman Bel Geddes, the “father of streamlining,” and Peter Schreyer, the man responsible for the Audi TT, are covered as well. 190 color photographs and illustrations are included in this discovery of the fantastic, the extraordinary, and just plain outlandish creations of the automotive industry.

This book constitutes the proceedings of the 38th International Conference on Computer Safety, Reliability and Security, SAFECOMP 2019, held in Turku, Finland, in September 2019. The 16 full and 5 short papers included in this volume were carefully reviewed and selected from 65 submissions. They were organized in topical sections named: formal verification; autonomous driving; safety and reliability modeling; security engineering and risk assessment; safety argumentation; verification and validation of autonomous systems; and interactive

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systems and design validation.

Follows the growth of the Japanese automobile industry, with information on the production of every Japanese manufacturer, technical specifications, racing car versions, the evolution of car design and all experimental prototypes

One million. That's how many new ideas the Toyota organization receives from its employees every year. These ideas come from every level of the organization - from the factory floors to the corporate suites. And organizations all over the world want to learn how they do it. Now Matthew May, Senior Advisor to the University of Toyota, reveals how any company can create an environment of every day innovation and achieve the elegant solutions found only on the far side of complexity. A tactical guide for team-based innovation, **THE ELEGANT SOLUTION** delivers the formula to the three principles and ten practices that drive business creativity. Innovation isn't just about technology - it's about value, opportunity and impact. When a company embeds a real discipline around the pursuit of perfection, the sky is the limit. Dozens of case studies (from Toyota and other companies) illustrate the power and universality of these concepts; a unique 'clamshell strategy' prepares managers to ensure organizational success. At once a thought-shaper, a playmaker, and a taskmaster, **THE ELEGANT SOLUTION** is a practical field manual for everyone in corporate life.

When the war ended on August 15, 1945, I was a naval engineering cadet at the Kure Navy Yard near Hiroshima, Japan. A week later, I was demobilized and returned to my home in Tokyo, fortunate not to find it ravaged by firebombing. At the beginning of September, a large contingent of the American occupation forces led by General Douglas MacArthur moved its base from Yokohama to Tokyo. Near my home I watched a procession of American military

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motor vehicles snaking along Highway 1. This truly awe-inspiring cavalcade included jeeps, two-and-a-half-ton trucks, and enormous trailers mounted with tanks and artillery. At the time, I was a 21-year-old student in the Machinery Section of Engineering at the Tokyo Imperial University. Watching that magnificent parade of military vehicles, I was more than impressed by the gap in industrial strength between Japan and the U. S. That realization led me to devote my whole life to the development of the Japanese auto industry. I wrote a small article concerning this incident in Nikkei Sangyo Shimbun (one of the leading business newspapers in Japan) on May 2, 1983. The English translation of this story was carried in the July 3, 1983 edition of the Topeka Capital-Journal and the September 13, 1983 issue of the Asian Wall Street Journal. The Topeka Capital-Journal headline read, "MacArthur's Jeeps Were the Toyota Catalyst.

Looks at concept and production automobiles launched worldwide each year.

One of the most critical issues facing supply chain managers in today's globalized and highly uncertain business environments is how to deal proactively with disruptions that might affect the complicated supply networks characterizing modern enterprises. Supply Chain Disruptions: Theory and Practice of Managing Risk presents a state-of-the-art perspective on this particular issue. Supply Chain Disruptions: Theory and Practice of Managing Risk demonstrates that effective management of supply disruptions necessitates both strategic and tactical measures – the former involving optimal design of supply networks; the latter involving inventory, finance and demand management. It shows that managers ought to use all available levers at their disposal throughout the supply network – like sourcing and pricing strategies, providing financial subsidies, encouraging information sharing and incentive alignment between supply

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chain partners – in order to tackle supply disruptions. The editors combine up-to-date academic research with the latest operational risk management practices used in industry to demonstrate how theoreticians and practitioners can learn from each other. As well as providing a wealth of knowledge for students and professors who are interested in pursuing research or teaching courses in the rapidly growing area of supply chain risk management, *Supply Chain Disruptions: Theory and Practice of Managing Risk* also acts as a ready reference for practitioners who are interested in understanding the theoretical underpinnings of effective supply disruption management techniques.

Our daily lives can be maintained by the high-technology systems. Computer systems are typical examples of such systems. We can enjoy our modern lives by using many computer systems. Much more importantly, we have to maintain such systems without failure, but cannot predict when such systems will fail and how to fix such systems without delay. A stochastic process is a set of outcomes of a random experiment indexed by time, and is one of the key tools needed to analyze the future behavior quantitatively. Reliability and maintainability technologies are of great interest and importance to the maintenance of such systems. Many mathematical models have been and will be proposed to describe reliability and maintainability systems by using the stochastic processes. The theme of this book is "Stochastic Models in Reliability and Maintainability." This book consists of 12 chapters on the theme above from the different viewpoints of stochastic modeling. Chapter 1 is devoted to "Renewal Processes," under which classical renewal theory is surveyed and computational

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methods are described. Chapter 2 discusses "Stochastic Orders," and in it some definitions and concepts on stochastic orders are described and aging properties can be characterized by stochastic orders. Chapter 3 is devoted to "Classical Maintenance Models," under which the so-called age, block and other replacement models are surveyed. Chapter 4 discusses "Modeling Plant Maintenance," describing how maintenance practice can be carried out for plant maintenance.

This book provides a unique historical and qualitative review of ten foreign automakers with plants in developed North America from their early beginnings to their export entry into North America. It seeks to expand the knowledge of American and Canadian policymakers pursuing a new foreign motor vehicle assembly plant or Foreign Direct Investment.

This book gathers selected papers presented at the Second International Conference on Intelligent Manufacturing and Automation (ICIMA 2020), which was jointly organized by the Departments of Mechanical Engineering and Production Engineering at Dwarkadas J. Sanghvi College of Engineering (DJSCE), Mumbai, and by the Indian Society of Manufacturing Engineers (ISME). Covering a range of topics in intelligent manufacturing, automation, advanced materials and design, it focuses on the latest advances in e.g. CAD/CAM/CAE/CIM/FMS in manufacturing, artificial intelligence in manufacturing, IoT in manufacturing, product design & development, DFM/DFA/FMEA, MEMS & nanotechnology, rapid prototyping, computational techniques, nano- & micro-

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machining, sustainable manufacturing, industrial engineering, manufacturing process management, modelling & optimization techniques, CRM, MRP & ERP, green, lean & agile manufacturing, logistics & supply chain management, quality assurance & environmental protection, advanced material processing & characterization of composite & smart materials. The book is intended as a reference guide for future researchers, and as a valuable resource for students in graduate and doctoral programmes.

Elementary Tagalog Workbook Tara, Mag-Tagalog Tayo! Come On, Let's Speak Tagalog! (Downloadable MP3 Audio Included) Tuttle Publishing

- A complete history of these impressive vehicles which includes technical specs of all models and production lines- Includes a separate timeline-poster of the history of the Land Cruiser- Revised and extended edition Developed in 1951 as Toyota's version of a Jeep-like vehicle, the Land Cruiser has been produced in convertible, hardtop, station wagon and utility truck versions plus its current flagship 4WD vehicle. Its reliability and longevity has led to huge popularity, especially in Australia where it has reliably performed under the toughest environmental conditions - "Gets you there ... gets you back"! The author, Alexander Wohlfahrt, tells the history of these impressive vehicles, describes the people who drive them and their philosophy of this type of car - whether they use it for fun or business. Last but not least the reader will also find the complete technical specifications of all models and production lines within this highly illustrated

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book.

The MR2 is a landmark car, up there with the legendary Toyota 2000GT, the Datsun 240Z, and Mazda's RX-7 and MX-5. It was the first mid-engined production model to come from the Land of the Rising Sun, and will always have a special place in the hearts of all sports car enthusiasts. Colour throughout.

Now available individually, this piano accompaniment for Suzuki Violin School Volume 6 (Revised) was previously included in Suzuki Violin School Piano Accompaniments Volume B, which included Volumes 6-10 (Unrevised). Titles: * La Folia, Follia Sonata 12, for Violin, Op. V (Adagio, Allegretto, Allegro moderato, Andante, Allegro, Adagio, Allegro) (A. Corelli/arr. S. Suzuki) * Sonata No. 3, Sonata in F Major, ChA 27, Op. 1, No. 12, HHA IV/4 No. 3-EZ (G.F. Handel) * Allegro (J.H. Fiocco) * Gavotte (J.Ph. Rameau) * Sonata No. 4, Sonata in D Major, ChA 27, Op. 1, No. 13, HHA IV/4, No. 4-EZ (G.F. Handel)

This book explores the major differences between the kinds of risk encountered in different sectors of industry - production (including agriculture) and services - and identifies the main features of accidents within different industries. Because of these differences, unique risk-mitigation measures will need to be implemented in one industry that cannot be implemented in another, leading to large managerial differences between these broad economic sectors. Based on the analysis of more than 500 disasters, accidents and incidents - around 230 cases from the production sector and

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around 280 cases from the service sector - the authors compare the risk response actions appropriate within different sectors, and establish when and how it is possible to generalize the experience of dealing with risks in any given industry to a wider field of economic activity. This book is mainly intended for executives, strategists, senior risk managers of enterprise-wide organizations and risk management experts engaged in academic or consulting work. By setting out clearly the sector differences in risk management, the authors aim to improve the practice of general risk assessment with regard to identifying and prioritizing risks, and of risk control with regard to planning appropriate mitigation measures.

This volume results from the “Second International Conference on Dynamics of Disasters” held in Kalamata, Greece, June 29-July 2, 2015. The conference covered particular topics involved in natural and man-made disasters such as war, chemical spills, and wildfires. Papers in this volume examine the finer points of disasters through: Critical infrastructure protection Resiliency Humanitarian logistic Relief supply chains Cooperative game theory Dynamical systems Decision making under risk and uncertainty Spread of diseases Contagion Funding for disaster relief Tools for emergency preparedness Response, and risk mitigation Multi-disciplinary theories, tools, techniques and methodologies are linked with disasters from mitigation and preparedness to response and recovery. The interdisciplinary approach to problems in economics, optimization, government, management, business, humanities,

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engineering, medicine, mathematics, computer science, behavioral studies, emergency services, and environmental studies will engage readers from a wide variety of fields and backgrounds.

Risk Management in Port Operations, Logistics and Supply Chain Security is the first book to address security, risk and reliability issues in maritime, port and supply chain settings. In particular this title tackles operational challenges that port, shipping, international logistics and supply chain operators face today in view of the new security regulations and the requirements of increased visibility across the supply chain.

Engineering Management: Meeting the Global Challenges prepares engineers to fulfill their managerial responsibilities, acquire useful business perspectives, and take on the much-needed leadership roles to meet the challenges in the new millennium. Value addition, customer focus, and business perspectives are emphasized throughout. Also underlined are discussions of leadership attributes, steps to acquire these attributes, the areas engineering managers are expected to add value, the web-based tools which can be aggressively applied to develop and sustain competitive advantages, the opportunities offered by market expansion into global regions, and the preparations required for engineering managers to become global leaders. The book is organized into three major sections: functions of engineering management, business fundamentals for engineering managers, and engineering management in the new millennium. This second edition refocuses on the new strategy for science, technology,

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engineering, and math (STEM) professionals and managers to meet the global challenges through the creation of strategic differentiation and operational excellence. Major revisions include a new chapter on creativity and innovation, a new chapter on operational excellence, and combination of the chapters on financial accounting and financial management. The design strategy for this second edition strives for achieving the T-shaped competencies, with both broad-based perspectives and in-depth analytical skills. Such a background is viewed as essential for STEM professionals and managers to exert a strong leadership role in the dynamic and challenging marketplace. The material in this book will surely help engineering managers play key leadership roles in their organizations by optimally applying their combined strengths in engineering and management.

This revised 2nd edition of Engineering Risk Management presents engineering aspects of risk management. After an introduction to potential risks the authors presents management principles, risk diagnostics, analysis and treatments followed by examples of practical implementation in chemistry, physics and emerging technologies such as nanoparticles.

This book highlights recent findings in industrial, manufacturing and mechanical engineering, and provides an overview of the state of the art in these fields, mainly in Russia and Eastern Europe. A broad range of topics and issues in modern engineering are discussed, including the dynamics of machines and working processes, friction,

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wear and lubrication in machines, surface transport and technological machines, manufacturing engineering of industrial facilities, materials engineering, metallurgy, control systems and their industrial applications, industrial mechatronics, automation and robotics. The book gathers selected papers presented at the 5th International Conference on Industrial Engineering (ICIE), held in Sochi, Russia in March 2019. The authors are experts in various fields of engineering, and all papers have been carefully reviewed. Given its scope, the book will be of interest to a wide readership, including mechanical and production engineers, lecturers in engineering disciplines, and engineering graduates.

The book is dedicated to multi-objective methods in decision making. The first part which is devoted to theoretical aspects, covers a broad range of multi-objective methods such as multiple linear programming, vector optimisation, fuzzy goal programming, data envelopment analysis, game theory, and dynamic programming. The reader who is interested in practical applications, will find in the remaining parts a variety of approaches applied in numerous fields including production planning, logistics, marketing, and finance.

CD-ROM contains full text for all the procedures available in the manual. Files are provided both as fully formatted Word 6.0 (.doc) documents and as text-only documents (.txt).

Nanoparticle technology, which handles the preparation, processing, application and

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characterisation of nanoparticles, is a new and revolutionary technology. It becomes the core of nanotechnology as an extension of the conventional Fine Particle / Powder Technology. Nanoparticle technology plays an important role in the implementation of nanotechnology in many engineering and industrial fields including electronic devices, advanced ceramics, new batteries, engineered catalysts, functional paint and ink, Drug Delivery System, biotechnology, etc.; and makes use of the unique properties of the nanoparticles which are completely different from those of the bulk materials. This new handbook is the first to explain complete aspects of nanoparticles with many application examples showing their advantages and advanced development. There are handbooks which briefly mention the nanosized particles or their related applications, but no handbook describing the complete aspects of nanoparticles has been published so far. The handbook elucidates of the basic properties of nanoparticles and various nanostructural materials with their characterisation methods in the first part. It also introduces more than 40 examples of practical and potential uses of nanoparticles in the later part dealing with applications. It is intended to give readers a clear picture of nanoparticles as well as new ideas or hints on their applications to create new materials or to improve the performance of the advanced functional materials developed with the nanoparticles. * Introduces all aspects of nanoparticle technology, from the fundamentals to applications. * Includes basic information on the preparation through to the characterization of nanoparticles from various viewpoints * Includes information on

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nanostructures, which play an important role in practical applications.

This is the eBook of the printed book and may not include any media, website access codes, or print supplements that may come packaged with the bound book. With an emphasis on diagnosing and troubleshooting—and featuring numerous tech tips and diagnostic examples throughout—this comprehensive, full-color book covers all aspects of automotive fuel and emissions. Designed specifically to correlate with the NATEF program, and updated throughout to correlate to the latest NATEF and ASE tasks, *Automotive Fuel and Emissions Control Systems, 4/e* combines topics in engine performance (ASE A8 content area) with topics covered in the advanced engine performance (L1) ASE test content area. The result is cost-efficient, easy-to-learn-from resource for students and beginning technicians alike. This book is part of the Pearson Automotive Professional Technician Series, which features full-color, media-integrated solutions for today's students and instructors covering all eight areas of ASE certification, plus additional titles covering common courses. Peer reviewed for technical accuracy, the series and the books in it represent the future of automotive textbooks.

This comprehensive new edition of *How to Design Cars Like a Pro* provides an in-depth look at modern automotive design. Interviews with leading automobile designers from Ford, BMW, GM Jaguar, Nissan and others, analyses of past and present trends, studies of individual models and concepts, and much more combine to reveal the

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fascinating mix of art and science that goes into creating automobiles. This book is a must-have for professional designers, as well as for automotive enthusiasts. This is the only book that completely lists accurate technical data for all cars imported into the U.S. market from 1946-2000. With many imports approaching the antique status, this book will be a big seller across all generations of car enthusiasts. From the grandiose European carriages of the late Forties to the hot, little Asian imports of the Nineties, every car to grace American roadways from across the Atlantic and Pacific is carefully referenced in this book. & break;& break; Foreign car devotees will appreciate the attention given to capturing precise data on Appearance and Equipment, Vehicle I.D. Numbers, Specification Charts, Engine Data, Chassis, Technical Data, Options and Historical Information. & break;& break; Collectors, restorers and car buffs will love this key book from noted automotive authors, James Flammang and Mike Covello. A behind-the-scenes look at Lexus's surprising twenty-year success story—in a revised new edition In the 1980s, German brands BMW and Mercedes-Benz dominated the luxury car market and had little reason to fear competition from Japan. But in 1989, Toyota entered the market with the Lexus LS 400, a car that could compete with the Germans in every category but price—it was US\$30,000 cheaper. Within two years, Lexus had overtaken Mercedes-Benz in the United States and made a stunning success of Toyota's brave foray into the global luxury market. Lexus: The Relentless Pursuit reveals why Toyota decided to take on the German automakers and how the

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new brand won praise and success for its unparalleled quality, unforgettable advertising, and unprecedented customer service. From the first boardroom planning session to Lexus's entry into the mega-luxury supercar market, this is the complete and compelling story of one of the world's most admired brands. Includes a new Foreword by legendary designer Erwin Lui, an Afterword with updates since the first edition, and a new Coda by leading Japanese automotive journalist Hisao Inoue Covers the racetrack triumph—and tragedy—behind the new US\$375,000 Lexus LFA supercar Offers important business lessons for brand managers and executives For car enthusiasts, business leaders, and anyone interested in branding and marketing, Lexus: The Relentless Pursuit offers an amazing story of excellence and innovation in the automotive industry.

This book constitutes selected papers from the Second International Workshop on IoT Streams for Data-Driven Predictive Maintenance, IoT Streams 2020, and First International Workshop on IoT, Edge, and Mobile for Embedded Machine Learning, ITEM 2020, co-located with ECML/PKDD 2020 and held in September 2020. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic the workshops were held online. The 21 full papers and 3 short papers presented in this volume were thoroughly reviewed and selected from 35 submissions and are organized according to the workshops and their topics: IoT Streams 2020: Stream Learning; Feature Learning; ITEM 2020: Unsupervised Machine Learning; Hardware; Methods; Quantization.

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Tara, Mag-Tagalog Tayo! Come On, Let's Speak Tagalog! Elementary Tagalog's comprehensive approach will help students master basic Tagalog (Filipino) without frustration. From learning to read Tagalog words and pronounce its sounds to using correct grammar, communicating in dialogues and building vocabulary, learners will be surprised at how quickly their skills in Tagalog language develop. The expert guidance in Elementary Tagalog is carefully sequenced to be the most effective and supportive for beginners and really helps students learn Tagalog. Covering a range of topics, the lessons center on themes from the family, the home, and the community to food, travel, health, leisure time, festivals and popular culture. There are plenty of exercises, activities and practice drills to help learners acquire and master the language fundamentals, while culture notes explore the diversity, heritage and history of the Philippines. The Elementary Tagalog Workbook is a helpful companion to the textbook and will assist you in practicing and polishing your skills. Each lesson supplements the corresponding lesson in the textbook. There are ten activities per lesson, which offer a range of exercises and practice opportunities to enable you to achieve proficiency in everyday, conversational Tagalog.

Global positioning systems like GPS or the future European Galileo are influencing the world of navigation tremendously. Today, everybody is concerned with navigation even if unaware of this fact. Therefore, the interest in navigation is steadily increasing. This book provides an encyclopedic view of navigation. Fundamental elements are

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presented for a better understanding of the techniques, methods, and systems used in positioning and guidance. The book consists of three parts. Beside a historical review and maps, the first part covers mathematical and physical fundamentals. The second part treats the methods of positioning including terrestrial, celestial, radio- and satellite-based, inertial, image-based, and integrated navigation. Routing and guidance are the main topics of the third part. Applications on land, at sea, in the air, and in space are considered, followed by a critical outlook on the future of navigation. This book is designed for students, teachers, and people interested in entering the complex world of navigation.

The market forces shaping business today are fundamentally changing the way we do business. To remain competitive, new management strategies must be developed and implemented. Corporate executives and managers everywhere need the latest management tools to help them revitalize their business and successfully position their organization for the future. No matter what type of business you are in, Strategic Management for the XXIst Century provides valuable insights to help you lead your organization by using the newest approaches for strategic planning. This essential resource not only explains the concept of strategic management, but also offers a step-by-step blueprint for creating a strategic planning system consisting of three components: strategic, administrative, and operational. An insightful and visionary reference, Strategic Management for the XXIst Century explains the logical

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relationships between a planning system and the structure within which they are executed. Also discussed are techniques of trend analysis, scanning projections, probability studies and "futures research"--the answer to bridging the gap between today's and tomorrow's markets.

Neurodegenerative diseases, including Alzheimer's, Parkinson's, Huntington's, and amyotrophic lateral sclerosis, are the most common pathologies of the central nervous system currently without a cure. They share common molecular and cellular characteristics, including protein misfolding, mitochondrial dysfunction, glutamate toxicity, dysregulation of calcium homeostasis, oxidative stress, inflammation, and ageing, which contribute to neuronal death. Efforts to treat these diseases are often limited by their multifactorial etiology. Natural products, thanks to their multitarget activities, are considered promising alternatives for the treatment of neurodegeneration. This book deals with two different forms of natural products: extracts and isolated compounds. The study of the bioactivity of the extracts is extremely important as many studies have demonstrated the synergistic effect of the combination of different natural products. On the other hand, the investigation of the activity of specifically isolated natural products can be also important to understand their cellular and molecular mechanisms and to define the specific bioactive components in extracts or foods. This book can be considered an important contribution to knowledge of the neuroprotective effect of natural products and presents a great deal of information, related to both the

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benefits but also the limitations of their use in counteracting neurodegeneration.

p.p1 {margin: 0.0px 0.0px 0.0px 0.0px; font: 11.0px Arial} The Celica, as well as a much-loved road car, was the first Japanese model to claim the World Rally Championship crown. This book tells the full story of the seven Celica generations (from 1970 to date), and that of its close cousin the Supra with detailed coverage of all the road cars from the world's leading markets, and the story surrounding the many race and rally models based on the two vehicle lines. Written with the full co-operation of the factory in Japan (and various official sales organizations from around the globe), this truly is the definitive history of these sporting Toyotas. Written by an acclaimed motoring historian with full co-operation from the factory this is an extremely comprehensive reference containing well over 250 mainly color photographs. Contemporary advertising brochures and exhaustive appendices complete the package making this a vital addition to any enthusiast's library.

Electroactive polymers have been the object of increasing academic and industrial interest and in the past ten to fifteen years substantial progress has been achieved in the development and the characterization of this important new class of conducting materials. These materials are usually classified in two large groups, according to the mode of their electric transport. One group includes polymers having transport almost exclusively of the ionic type and they are often called 'polymer electrolytes' or, in a broader way, 'polymer ionics'. The other group includes polymeric materials where the

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transport mechanism is mainly electronic in nature and which are commonly termed 'conducting polymers'. Ionically conducting polymers or polymer ionics may be typically described as polar macromolecular solids in which one or more of a wide range of salts has been dissolved. The most classic example is the combination of poly(ethylene oxide), PEO, and lithium salts, LiX. These PEO-LiX polymer ionics were first described and proposed for applications just over ten years ago. The practical relevance of these new materials was immediately recognized and in the course of a few years the field expanded tremendously with the involvement of many academic and industrial laboratories. Following this diversified research activity, the ionic transport mechanism in polymer ionics was soon established and this has led to the development of new host polymers of various types, new salts and advanced polymer architectures which have enabled room temperature conductivity to be raised by several orders of magnitude. This book aims to uncover the root causes of natural and man-made disasters by going beyond the typical reports and case studies conducted post-disaster. It opens the black box of disasters by presenting 'forensic analysis approaches' to disasters, thereby revealing the complex causality that characterizes them and explaining how and why hazards do, or do not, become disasters. This yields 'systemic' strategies for managing disasters. Recently the global threat landscape has seen the emergence of high impact, low probability events. Events like Hurricane Katrina, the Great Japan Earthquake and tsunami, Hurricane Sandy, Super Typhoon Haiyan, global terrorist

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activities have become the new norm. Extreme events challenge our understanding regarding the interdependencies and complexity of the disaster aetiology and are often referred to as Black Swans. Between 2002 and 2011, there were 4130 disasters recorded that resulted from natural hazards around the world. In these, 1,117,527 people perished and a minimum of US\$1,195 billion in losses were reported. In the year 2011 alone, 302 disasters claimed 29,782 lives; affected 206 million people and inflicted damages worth a minimum of estimated US\$366 billion.

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