Acknowledgments

The editors would like to acknowledge the help of all involved in the collation and review process of the book, without whose support the project could not have been completed. A further special note of thanks goes also to all the staff at Idea Group Inc., whose contributions throughout the whole process, from inception of the initial idea to final publication, have been invaluable. Deep appreciation and gratitude is due to University College of Borås for providing a unique research and teaching environment that stimulated and supported this year-long project.

Most of the authors of chapters included in this book also served as referees for articles written by other authors. Thanks go to all those who provided constructive and comprehensive reviews. However, some of the reviewers must be mentioned, as their reviews set the benchmark. Reviewers who provided the most comprehensive, critical, and constructive comments include Pablo David Villarreal of Universidad Tecnológica Nacional Santa Fe in Argentina; Ali H. Dogru of Middle East Technical University Ankara in Turkey; Artur Caetano of Technical University of Lisbon in Portugal; and Vince Kellen of DePaul University in Chicago.

Special thanks also go to the publishing team at Idea Group Inc. In particular to our development editor, Kristin Roth, who continuously prodded via e-mail for keeping the project on schedule, and to Mehdi Khosrow-Pour, senior academic editor, whose enthusiasm motivated me to initially accept his invitation for taking on this project.

Special thanks go to my colleagues at University College of Borås who gave me many new insights and provided inspiring thoughts while enduring my lack of understanding. And last but not least, I am grateful to my colleague, Mikael Lind, for his unfailing support and encouragement during the months it took to give birth to this book.

In closing, I wish to thank all of the authors for their insights and excellent contributions to this book. I also want to thank all of the people who assisted me in the reviewing process. Finally, I want to thank my partner for her love and support throughout this project.

Peter Rittgen, PhD
Borås, Sweden
June 2006