Foreword

It is my great pleasure to write the foreword for Dr. Raymond Greenlaw’s *Technical Writing, Presentation Skills, and Online Communications: Professional Tools and Insights*. I have known Dr. Greenlaw for over 20 years. In his career in the computing field, which has spanned more than 30 years, Dr. Greenlaw has authored 20 books and over 100 publications in total. Dr. Greenlaw has vast academic experience, currently serving as the Leighton Distinguished Professor of Information Technology at the United States Naval Academy, and previously having worked as a Department Chair and Dean at Armstrong Atlantic State University. Dr. Greenlaw has been the Principal Investigator on many grants and worked as an industry consultant. He played a major role in ABET (Accreditation Board for Engineering and Technology), and he served on the Executive Committee for the Computing Accreditation Commission. I can think of no better person to write a book on technical communications for the Information Technology professional than Dr. Greenlaw.

Based on my personal experience in the computing industry, my own and my colleagues’ ability (or lack thereof) to communicate technical concepts effectively has been one of the most-significant determinants of success. Many a talented engineer’s career advancement is stymied at an early stage because he or she fails to master these basic and essential skills. In this book, Dr. Greenlaw presents a practical approach to acquiring these skills. He covers many practical aspects of ethics, technical writing, oral presentations, and online writing. I believe that many IT professionals can benefit from reading this book, and they will find new material that they can immediately apply in the workplace or in school. Due to the different levels at which the material is presented, both the relative newcomer to technical writing as well as the seasoned professional will benefit from the wide variety of communication topics that are covered. I highly recommend this book to anyone working in the IT field and to all students of technical communications.

*Paul Goransson*
*Elbrys Networks, Inc.*
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*Paul Goransson* is a passionate entrepreneur who has led two boot-strap start-up companies through successful acquisitions by industry giants - Qosnetics by Hewlett Packard (1999) and Meetinghouse by Cisco (2006). Paul held senior management positions with HP’s Advanced Networks Division and Cisco’s Wireless Networking Business Unit. As Founder and Chairperson of the Elbrys Networks Board of Directors, Paul currently leads corporate strategy and directs Elbrys’ Intellectual Property portfolio. Paul received a B.A. in Psychology from Brandeis University in 1975, an M.S. in Computer Engineering from Boston University in 1981, and a Ph.D. in Computer Science from the University of New Hampshire in 1995. Paul is an avid marathoner, mountaineer, triathlete, scuba diver, and outdoor enthusiast. He has completed 6 Ironman triathlons, numerous ultramarathons, and is a NAUI divemaster. He has lived, studied, and worked for extensive periods in France, Algeria, Venezuela, Mexico, and Sweden. Paul co-authored the book “Roaming Securely in 802.11 Networks” as well as numerous articles in technical journals related to computer networking. He is often an invited speaker at technical conferences. Paul owns and manages a 130-acre beef and hay farm in southern Maine in his spare time.