Foreword

By Leopoldo Eduardo Cárdenas-Barrón

The majority of the systems or processes that one can find in the real world can be optimized or improved. In this direction, researchers and practitioners have been developing new intelligent algorithms in order to optimize and improve systems in different fields such as engineering, management, marketing, supply chains, technology, modelling, design, quality, power, scheduling, product development, computing, and others. In this respect, the optimizing and improving of systems is a challenging task that must be mandatory to consider.

It is well-known that many optimization problems are hard to solve and sometimes it is not possible to solve them exactly. In this respect, computing-intelligent algorithms have become surprisingly successful and useful in solving complex problems. This is the subject of the present book. Moreover, a considerable part of the book is devoted to the discussion of practical issues. It comprehensively discusses theory and systematically describes intelligent algorithms for a wide variety of real life applications. This book also represents the state-of-the-art of global soft computing-based techniques which are novel and innovative. Furthermore, this book establishes a background for future research.

The realization of this book is due to an enthusiastic group of experts around the world, whose contributions made it possible for you, the reader, to have it. Readers of this book could be researchers, practitioners, graduate students, or senior undergraduate students involved in computer science. It would also be useful for decision makers, managers, engineers, financiers, economists, and industrialists.

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