Acknowledgment

This book is partly the result of PhD research undertaken by Dr Farley Nobre at The University of Birmingham and in The Humboldt University of Berlin between 2001 and 2005, sponsored by CNPq, an Institution of the Ministry of Science and Technology of Brazil. The book also draws upon current and recent research by Andrew Tobias and David Walker of The University of Birmingham, on organizational structures. We are indebted to CNPq and to both Universities for providing a distinguished research environment for its completion.

We would like to thank the staff of The Humboldt University of Berlin for the services and resources provided by them during Farley’s stay in that University in the period between October 2002 and July 2003. In particular, we are indebted to Professor Hans-Dieter Burkhard and Dr. Gabriela Lindemann from the School of Computer Science for their kind reception of Farley and his introduction to the Artificial Intelligence Research Group, SOCIONICS project, seminars and courses. We also would like to thank Prof. Dr. D. Demougin, Dr. D. Kübler, and Dr. C. Helm for their lectures on organizations and behavioural economics at the School of Economics and Business Administration of The Humboldt University of Berlin.

Our scientific acknowledgements are also due to both Prof. L.A. Zadeh and Prof. H.A. Simon (in memory) due to their important contributions to most of the multi-disciplinary fields (spanning from artificial intelligence, cognition and decision analysis to systems theory and organizations) which shaped this book.

We also are very pleased to thank all the IGI Global staff due to their attention and services provided, and special thanks go to Julia Mosemann who continuously advised on this publication.