## Acknowledgment

Editing a book is a quite hard but compensating and enriching task, as it involves a set of different activities like contacts with authors and reviewers, discussion and exchange of ideas and experiences, process management, organization and integration of contents, and many other tasks, with the permanent objective of creating a book that meets the public expectations. And this task cannot be accomplished without a great help and support from many sources. As editors we would like to acknowledge the help, support and believe of all who made possible this creation.

First of all, the edition of this book would not have been possible without the ongoing professional support of the team of professionals of IGI-Global. We are grateful to Dr. Mehdi Khosrow-Pour and to Ms. Jan Travers, Managing Director, for the opportunity and belief in this project. A very very special mention of gratitude is due to Ms. Julia Mosemann, Director of Book Publications, for her highly professional support and friendly words of advice, encouragement and prompt guidance. We also address our recognition and appreciation to all the staff at IGI Global, whose contributions throughout the process of production and making this book available all over the world was invaluable.

We are grateful to all the authors for their insights and excellent contributions to this book. Also, we are grateful for the authors who simultaneously served as referees for chapters written by other authors, as well as to the external referees and to the members of the editorial advisory board for their insights, valuable contributions, prompt collaboration and constructive comments. Thank you all, authors and reviewers, you made this book! The communication and exchange of views within this truly global group of recognized individualities from the scientific domain and from industry was an enriching and exciting experience!

We are also grateful to all who accede to contribute to this project, some of them with high quality chapter proposals, but unfortunately, due to several constraints could not have seen their work published.

Thank you.

Maria Manuela Cruz-Cunha Polytechnic Institute of Cávado and Ave, Portugal

Vitor Hugo Costa Carvalho Polytechnic Institute of Cávado and Ave, Portugal

Paula Cristina Almeida Tavares Polytechnic Institute of Cávado and Ave, Portugal