## Acknowledgment

The editor would like to acknowledge the help of all those who contributed to this one year long project. Without their help and support, the project could not have been satisfactorily completed.

Most of the authors of chapters included in this book also served as referees for articles written by other authors. Many thanks to all those who provided constructive and comprehensive reviews. Special thanks also go to all the staff at IGI Global, whose contributions throughout the whole process from inception of the initial idea to final publication have been very invaluable. In particular, to our development editor, Kristin Roth, whose continuous communication via e-mail kept the project on schedule.

I wish also to thank all of the authors for their insights and excellent contributions to this book.

Finally, I want to thank my wife and children for their love and support throughout this project.

Toufik Taibi, PhD Al Ain, UAE December 2006