# Foreword

Net Centricity allows Military, Civil, Commercial and Personal operations to be executed with the participants asynchronous in time and space. This allows significant improvements in speed, flexibility, and performance over the Industrial Age model where all must be at the factory or office at the same time. The impact is similar to that of the introduction of the automobile into the synchronous world of trains and planes in the transportation field. Achieving these benefits requires significant technological and social changes to be instituted.

As communications bandwidth becomes ever less costly and more widely available, we will be able to not only allow people to process information as they see fit but also allow multiple individuals and organizations to have direct and simultaneous access to information and to each other. We will also be able to support richer interactions between and among individuals.

This book examines these possible advantages and the changes that are required.

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**John Stenbit** *is nationally recognized for his expertise in developing crucial defense information systems, leading defense transformation initiatives at the Department of Defense (DoD), and applying systems engineering to solve complex problems at large organizations Stenbit was appointed DoD CIO, Assistant Secretary of Defense for Command, Control, Communications, and Intelligence (C3I) by President George W. Bush on August 7, 2001, and then Assistant Secretary of Defense for Networks and Information Integration/Department of Defense Chief Information Officer. He has led the transition to information-centric warfare including creating information systems to support intelligence and operations in Afghanistan and Iraq. For more than three decades, Stenbit held various management positions at TRW Inc., a diversified company that provided high technology products to the space, defense, information systems, and automotive markets. Stenbit holds a BS degree in engineering and an MS degree in electrical engineering from the California Institute of Technology. He has chaired the Science and Technology Advisory Panel to the Director of Central Intelligence, and served as member of the Science Advisory Group to the directors of Naval Intelligence and the Defense Communications Agency. Stenbit currently is a member of the board of a number of different corporate organizations.*