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Oge Marques

Innovative Technologies in Everyday Life

Springer

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To Ingrid

Preface

This short book provides an overview of contemporary innovative technologies and discusses their impact on our daily lives. Written from a technical perspective, and yet using language and terminology accessible to nonexperts, it describes the technologies, the key players in each area, and the most popular apps and services (and their pros and cons), as well as relevant usage statistics.

It is targeted at a broad audience, ranging from young gadget enthusiasts to senior citizens trying to get used to new devices and associated apps. By offering a structured overview of some of the most useful technologies currently available, putting them in perspective, and suggesting numerous resources for further exploration, the book gives its readers a clear path for learning new topics through apps and Web based resources, making better choices of apps and websites for frequent use, using social networks effectively, protecting their privacy and staying safe online, and enjoying the opportunities brought about by these technological advances without being completely consumed by them.

I expect that the book will fulfill its goal of serving as a preliminary reference on the subject. Readers who want to deepen their understanding of specific topics will find more than two hundred references to additional sources of related information.

I want to express my gratitude to Dr. Herb Shapiro—Associate Provost and Director of the Lifelong Learning Society (LLS) at Florida Atlantic University (FAU), Boca Raton, FL—and the LLS patrons, board, and staff for their encouragement and support during the occasions in which I had the pleasure of teaching topics related to this book to groups of intellectually curious lifelong learners.

I would also like to thank Courtney Dramis, Jennifer Malat, Jennifer Evans, and their team at Springer for their support throughout this project.

Boca Raton, FL, USA — Oge Marques
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