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Learn to maintain and update scorecards and dashboards with Excel Balanced Scorecards and operational dashboards measure organizational performance and Microsoft Excel is the tool used worldwide to create these scorecards and dashboards. This book covers time-proven step-by-step processes on how to guide executive teams and managers in creating scorecards and dashboards. It then shows Excel developers how to create those scorecards and dashboards. This is the only book that converts theory into practice. The author addresses the people and processes you need to identify strategy and operational metrics and then implement them in dashboards in three versions of Excel. You'll learn how balanced scorecards help organizations translate strategy into action and the ways that performance dashboards enable managers monitor operations. Covers Excel 2010 back to Excel 2003 Shows how to develop consensus on strategy and operational plans with the executive teams Details steps in creating tactical action plans Gives step-by-step guidance in creating the most powerful management dashboards Puts over ten years of experience in one book **Balanced Scorecards & Operational Dashboards with Microsoft Excel, Second Edition** is the ultimate resource for enhancing your strategic and operational performance. Easyplot is a tool for viewing, analyzing and plotting scientific

data. It is designed for anyone who works with scientific or engineering data and provides a powerful graphical environment in which you interact directly with graphs and data. This manual describes EasyPlot for Windows Version 4.0. Discover high-value Azure security insights, tips, and operational optimizations This book presents comprehensive Azure Security Center techniques for safeguarding cloud and hybrid environments. Leading Microsoft security and cloud experts Yuri Diogenes and Dr. Thomas Shinder show how to apply Azure Security Center's full spectrum of features and capabilities to address protection, detection, and response in key operational scenarios. You'll learn how to secure any Azure workload, and optimize virtually all facets of modern security, from policies and identity to incident response and risk management. Whatever your role in Azure security, you'll learn how to save hours, days, or even weeks by solving problems in most efficient, reliable ways possible. Two of Microsoft's leading cloud security experts show how to:

- Assess the impact of cloud and hybrid environments on security, compliance, operations, data protection, and risk management
- Master a new security paradigm for a world without traditional perimeters
- Gain visibility and control to secure compute, network, storage, and application workloads
- Incorporate Azure Security Center into your security operations center
- Integrate Azure Security Center with Azure AD Identity Protection Center and third-party solutions
- Adapt Azure Security Center's built-in policies and definitions for your organization
- Perform security assessments and implement Azure Security Center recommendations
- Use incident response features to detect, investigate, and address threats
- Create high-fidelity fusion alerts to focus attention on your most urgent security issues
- Implement application whitelisting and just-in-time VM access
- Monitor user behavior and access, and investigate compromised or misused credentials
- Customize and perform operating system security baseline assessments
- Leverage integrated threat intelligence to identify known bad actors

Managing Information Technology Resources in Organizations in the Next Millennium contains more than 200 unique perspectives on numerous timely issues of managing information technology in organizations around the world. This book, featuring the latest research and applied IT practices, is a valuable source in support of teaching and research agendas.

Implement, maintain, and repair SQL Server 2012 databases As the most significant update since 2008, Microsoft SQL Server 2012 boasts updates and new features that are critical to understand. Whether you manage and administer SQL Server 2012 or are planning to get your MCSA: SQL Server 2012 certification, this book is the perfect supplement to your learning and preparation. From understanding SQL Server's roles to implementing business intelligence and reporting, this practical book explores tasks and scenarios that a working SQL Server DBA faces regularly and shows you step by step how to handle them. Includes practice exams and coverage of exam objectives for those seeking MCSA: SQL Server 2012 certification Explores the skills you'll need on the job as a SQL Server 2012 DBA Discusses designing and implementing database solutions Walks you through administering, maintaining, and securing SQL Server 2012 Addresses implementing high availability and data distribution Includes bonus videos where the author walks you through some of the more difficult tasks expected of a DBA Featuring hands-on exercises and real-world scenarios, this resource guides you through the essentials of implementing, maintaining, and repairing SQL Server 2012 databases. Seminar paper from the year 2011 in the subject Computer Science - Commercial Information Technology, grade: A, University of Kent, course: BSC, language: English, abstract: Information is necessary for many businesses whether small, medium, or large, and the necessity of the information depends on a variety of uses. For example, in the case of proper planning in the business, senior managers will require information to facilitate this planning. However, middle-level management relies on detailed systems of information in order to properly control and monitor various activities in the business. At the same time, various employees who have operational roles also tend to rely on information systems in order to efficiently carry out their duties in the business. Due to all these necessities, many businesses tend to develop information systems that operate at the same time. The Microsoft Company applies Management Information Systems (MIS) in dealing with internal affairs of the company. An Office Automation System (OAS) improves the productivity of employees who need to process data and information (Bill 2006). The Microsoft Company deals with several software systems and the use of OAS becomes handy since it enhances employees' productivity. Employees have the ability to work from their own homes, as well as other areas at their convenience. Apart from these two systems of information, the other systems of information applicable by the Microsoft Company is the use of Decision Support Systems commonly known as DSS. A decision support system enables the management to make decisions in situations surrounded by uncertainty (Bill 2006). A lot of uncertainty occasionally arises from these big companies such as Microsoft and in such times, the use of DSS becomes handy. This method consists of techniques and tools capable of collecting relevant information and providing analysis of all the relevant information gathered. In the process of analysis provisions, the method also provides alternatives used in case of absence of relevant information. Apart from the provisions of alternatives, this method also involves the use of complex spreadsheets and various databases used to develop several "what-if" models. Annotation A comprehensive and broad introduction to computer and intrusion forensics, covering the areas of law enforcement, national security and corporate fraud, this practical book helps professionals understand case studies from around the world, and treats key emerging areas such as steganography, image identification, authorship categorization, and machine learning. "SystemView is a comprehensive dynamic systems analysis environment for the design and simulation of engineering or scientific systems" --Pref. Seminar paper from the year 2004 in the subject Business economics - Marketing, Corporate Communication, CRM, Market Research, Social Media, grade: Distinction, Deakin University (Faculty of Business and Law), course: Marketing Management, language: English, abstract: What comes first to your mind when you hear the names Sony and Nintendo? Maybe you associate them as the two huge players on the video console market which dominate this segment. So what happens if the giant of the software industry, Microsoft, steps into a so far protected territory and introduces a perfectly planned marketing campaign that brings the green Xbox logo in everybody's mind? Considering that Microsoft is a very aggressive and well financially equipped company, therefore one of the most successful in the world, you can expect a major showdown. But what will happen to the customer who should be the driving force of the marketing effort of those players?

Statistical Applications for Environmental Analysis and Risk Assessment guides readers through real-world situations and the best statistical methods used to determine the nature and extent of the problem, evaluate the potential human health and ecological risks, and design and implement remedial systems as necessary. Featuring numerous worked examples using actual data and "ready-made" software scripts, Statistical Applications for Environmental Analysis and Risk Assessment also includes:

- Descriptions of basic statistical concepts and principles in an informal style that does not presume prior familiarity with the subject
- Detailed illustrations of statistical applications in the environmental and related water resources fields using real-world data in the contexts that would typically be encountered by practitioners
- Software scripts using the high-powered statistical software system, R, and supplemented by USEPA's ProUCL and USDOE's VSP software packages, which are all freely available
- Coverage of frequent data sample issues such as non-detects, outliers, skewness, sustained and cyclical trend that habitually plague environmental data samples
- Clear demonstrations of the crucial, but often overlooked, role of statistics in environmental sampling design and subsequent exposure risk assessment.

The purpose of this research is to technically evaluate, refine, and expand two existing aircraft safety management information systems (one military and one civilian). The systems are used in the data collection, organization, query, analysis, and reporting of maintenance errors that contribute to aviation mishaps, equipment damage, and personnel injury. Both programs implement the Human Factors Analysis and Classification System (HFACS) taxonomy model developed by the Naval Safety Center (NSC) to capture aircrew errors in Naval Aviation mishaps. The goal of this taxonomy is to identify areas for potential intervention by fully describing factors that are precursors to aircraft accidents. Energy costs impact the profitability of virtually all industrial processes. Stressing how plants use power, and how that power is actually generated, this book provides a clear and simple way to understand the energy usage in various processes, as well as methods for optimizing these processes using practical hands-on simulations and a unique approach that details solved problems utilizing actual plant data. Invaluable information offers a complete energy-saving approach essential for both the chemical and mechanical engineering curricula, as well as for practicing engineers. Teach yourself to use SQL Server 2008 Analysis Services for business intelligence—one step at a time. You'll start by building your understanding of the business intelligence platform enabled by SQL Server and the Microsoft Office System, highlighting the role of Analysis Services. Then, you'll create a simple multidimensional OLAP cube and progressively add features to help improve, secure, deploy, and maintain an Analysis Services database. You'll explore core Analysis Services 2008 features and capabilities, including dimension, cube, and aggregation design wizards; a new attribute relationship designer; designer AMO warnings; and using dynamic management views to monitor resources. And as you complete each lesson, you can hone your skills using the practice exercises from the companion CD. Plus, you can review and download code samples illustrating the author's own, professional techniques—direct from the companion Web site. For customers who purchase an ebook version of this title, instructions for downloading the CD files can be found in the ebook. A book-and-video introduction to Microsoft's Business Intelligence tools If you are just starting to get a handle on Microsoft Business Intelligence (BI) tools, this book and accompanying video provides you with the just the right amount of information to perform basic business analysis and reporting. You'll explore the components and related tools that comprise the Microsoft BI toolset as well as the new BI features of Office 2010. After a basic primer on BI and data modeling, the expert team of authors provides you with step-by-step lessons in the book and videos on the accompanying DVD on how to use SQL Server Integration Services, SQL Server Analysis Services, SQL Server Reporting Services, Excel BI (including PowerPivot), and SharePoint. Integrates instructional videos with each of the lessons found in the book to enhance your learning experience Explores the Microsoft Business

Intelligence (BI) toolset as well as the new BI features of Office 2010 Encourages you to practice what you've learned in "Try It Out" sections Contains video demonstrations that walk you through how to tackle each lesson featured in the book With Knight's Microsoft Business Intelligence 24-Hour Trainer, veteran authors present you with an ideal introductory book-and-video package so that you can get started working with the BI toolset immediately! Note: As part of the print version of this title, video lessons are included on DVD. For e-book versions, video lessons can be accessed at wrox.com using a link provided in the interior of the e-book. The Definitive How-To Guide for Business and Competitive Analysis Transform raw data into compelling, actionable business recommendations Answer the questions executives ask—"What?" "So What?" and "Now What?" Today's 24 most valuable techniques: how to choose them, how to use them For everyone who performs analysis: managers, consultants, functional specialists, and strategists A completely new book by the authors of the popular Strategic and Competitive Analysis Business success begins with deep clarity about your competition and your business environment. But, even as data gathering has improved dramatically, few business professionals know the state-of-the-art techniques for analyzing their data. Now there's a comprehensive, immensely practical guide to today's best tools and techniques for answering tough questions and making actionable recommendations. Business and Competitive Analysis begins with end-to-end guidance on the analysis process, including defining problems, avoiding analytical pitfalls, choosing tools, and communicating results. Next, the authors offer detailed guides on 24 of today's most valuable analysis models: techniques that have never been brought together in one book before. They offer in-depth, step-by-step guidance for using every technique—along with realistic assessments of strengths, weaknesses, feasibility, and business value. This practical and easy-to-follow text explores the theoretical underpinnings of decision forests, organizing the vast existing literature on the field within a new, general-purpose forest model. Topics and features: with a foreword by Prof. Y. Amit and Prof. D. Geman, recounting their participation in the development of decision forests; introduces a flexible decision forest model, capable of addressing a large and diverse set of image and video analysis tasks; investigates both the theoretical foundations and the practical implementation of decision forests; discusses the use of decision forests for such tasks as classification, regression, density estimation, manifold learning, active learning and semi-supervised classification; includes exercises and experiments throughout the text, with solutions, slides, demo videos and other supplementary material provided at an associated website; provides a free, user-friendly software library, enabling the reader to experiment with forests in a hands-on manner. Microsoft Data Mining approaches data mining from the particular perspective of IT professionals using Microsoft data management technologies. The author explains the new data mining capabilities in Microsoft's SQL Server 2000 database, Commerce Server, and other products, details the Microsoft OLE DB for Data Mining standard, and gives readers best practices for using all of them. The book bridges the previously specialized field of data mining with the new technologies and methods that are quickly making it an important mainstream tool for companies of all sizes. Data mining refers to a set of technologies and techniques by which IT professionals search large databases of information (such as those contained by SQL Server) for patterns and trends. Traditionally important in finance, telecommunication, and other information-intensive fields, data mining increasingly helps companies better understand and serve their customers by revealing buying patterns and related interests. It is becoming a foundation for e-commerce and knowledge management. Unique book on a hot data management topic Part of Digital Press's SQL Server and data mining clusters Author is an expert on both traditional and Microsoft data mining technologies Understand Microsoft's dramatically updated new release of its premier toolset for business intelligence The first major update to Microsoft's state-of-the-art, complex toolset for business intelligence (BI) in years is now available and what better way to master it than with this detailed book from key members of the product's development team? If you're a database or data warehouse developer, this is the expert resource you need to build full-scale, multi-dimensional, database applications using Microsoft's new SQL Server 2012 Analysis Services and related tools. Discover how to solve real-world BI problems by leveraging a slew of powerful new Analysis Services features and capabilities. These include the new DAX language, which is a more user-friendly version of MDX; PowerPivot, a new tool for performing simplified analysis of data; BISM, Microsoft's new Business Intelligence Semantic Model; and much more. Serves as an authoritative guide to Microsoft's new SQL Server 2012 Analysis Services BI product and is written by key members of the Microsoft Analysis Services product development team Covers SQL Server 2012 Analysis Services, a major new release with a host of powerful new features and capabilities Topics include using the new DAX language, a simplified, more user-friendly version of MDX; PowerPivot, a new tool for performing simplified analysis of data; BISM, Microsoft's new Business Intelligence Semantic Model; and a new, yet-to-be-named BI reporting tool Explores real-world scenarios to help developers build comprehensive solutions Get thoroughly up to speed on this powerful new BI toolset with the timely and authoritative Professional Microsoft SQL Server 2012 Analysis Services with MDX. NOTE: This title is also available as a free eBook on the Microsoft Download Center. It is offered for sale in print format as a convenience. Get a head start evaluating SQL Server 2014 - guided by two experts who have worked with the technology from the earliest beta. Based on Community Technology Preview 2 (CTP2) software, this guide introduces new features and capabilities, with practical insights on how SQL Server 2014 can meet the needs of your business. Get the early, high-level overview you need to begin preparing your deployment now. Coverage includes: SQL Server 2014 Editions and engine enhancements Mission-critical performance enhancements Hybrid cloud enhancements Self-service Business Intelligence enhancements in Microsoft Excel Enterprise information management enhancements Big Data solutions As the foundation of the Microsoft Business Intelligence Strategy, Microsoft SQL Server 2008 Analysis Services provides users with faster access to data and even more tools for managing and analyzing data across multidimensional objects (databases, dimensions, cubes). Microsoft SQL Server 2008 Analysis Services Unleashed is the ultimate guide for anyone who is planning to use the latest version of Analysis Services. It gives readers insight into the way Analysis Services functions, and explains practical methods for designing and creating multidimensional objects. It also provides valuable insight into the reasons behind the design decisions taken by the product development team. The authors have been involved with Analysis Services from its earliest days. They have documented in detail the internal features of Analysis Services 2008, explaining server architecture, main data structures, data processing, and query resolution algorithms. Discover the new functionality introduced in Analysis Services 2008 including MDX enhancements and new DMV (dynamic memory views) Work with the Business Intelligence Development Studio, the new Dimension Editor, and Aggregation Designer interfaces Enjoy complete coverage of new Shared Scalable Databases scale-out infrastructure Learn the key concepts of multidimensional modeling Explore the multidimensional object model and its definition language Integrate multidimensional and relational databases Build client applications to access data in Analysis Services Unravel the inner workings of the server architecture, including main data structures, data processing, and query resolution algorithms Learn the main concepts of the MDX language and gain an in-depth understanding of advanced MDX concepts Gain a deeper understanding of the internal and external protocols for data transfer, including the XML/A protocol Discover how Analysis Services manages memory Explore the security model, including role-based security, code-access security, and data security Category: Microsoft SQL Server Covers: Microsoft SQL Server 2008 Analysis Services User Level: Intermediate-Advanced Leverage the integration of SQL Server and Office for more effective BI Applied Microsoft Business Intelligence shows you how to leverage the complete set of Microsoft tools—including Microsoft Office and SQL Server—to better analyze business data. This book provides best practices for building complete BI solutions using the full Microsoft toolset. You will learn how to effectively use SQL Server Analysis and Reporting Services, along with Excel, SharePoint, and other tools to provide effective and cohesive solutions for the enterprise. Coverage includes BI architecture, data queries, semantic models, multidimensional modeling, data analysis and visualization, performance monitoring, data mining, and more, to help you learn to perform practical business analysis and reporting. Written by an author team that includes a key member of the BI product team at Microsoft, this useful reference provides expert instruction for more effective use of the Microsoft BI toolset. Use Microsoft BI suite cohesively for more effective enterprise solutions Search, analyze, and visualize data more efficiently and completely Develop flexible and scalable tabular and multidimensional models Monitor performance, build a BI portal, and deploy and manage the BI Solution The MDX Cube Reporting Guide provides information to integrate MicroStrategy with MDX cube sources. You can integrate data from MDX cube sources such as SAP BW, Microsoft Analysis Services, and Hyperion Essbase into your MicroStrategy projects and applications. The must-read summary of Julie Bick's book: "All I Really Need to Know in Business I Learned at Microsoft: Insider Strategies to Help You Succeed". This complete summary of the ideas from Julie Bick's book "All I Really Need To Know In Business I Learned At Microsoft" shows that Microsoft is one of the most successful companies in the world, and is often considered to be a shining example of a business that is able to change quickly and effectively to accommodate shifts in the market. The intense, dynamic working environment is filled with highly motivated and hard-working individuals, making it a superb place to learn strong management skills. This summary highlights the experience of Julie Bick as a senior product manager for Microsoft, and brings Microsoft's management strategies under the microscope to identify what works and what doesn't. The author outlines all she has learnt on running a business, being a good manager, being a strong communicator and managing a career – all lessons learnt at Microsoft. Each section is broken down into simple and actionable lessons, from how to give constructive feedback to always keeping an up-to-date resume. Whilst an experienced manager might find this summary a little obvious, it is certainly a good starting point for an aspiring or less experienced manager, or someone in the early stages of their career. Added-value of this summary: • Save time • Understand key concepts • Increase your business knowledge To learn more,

read "All I Really Need to Know in Business I Learned at Microsoft" and discover Microsoft's winning management strategies. The field of digital forensics is rapidly evolving and continues to gain significance in both the law enforcement and the scientific community. Being intrinsically interdisciplinary, it draws upon a wide range of subject areas such as information & communication technologies, law, social sciences and business administration. With this in mind, the workshop on Digital Forensics and Incident Analysis (WDFIA) specifically addresses this multi-faceted aspect, with papers invited from the full spectrum of issues relating to digital forensics and incident analysis. This book represents the proceedings from the 2012 event, which was held in Crete, Greece. A total of 13 papers are included, spanning a range of topics including systems and network investigation, services and applications and supporting the forensic process. All of the papers were subject to double-blind peer review, with each being reviewed by at least two members of the international programme committee. This manuscript contains various approaches in interpreting data and how the unearthed pieces of information be used as practical inputs for decision making. With the aid of Microsoft Excel, presented in a step-by-step manner, data sets that differ in kind, probability, and distributions are analyzed and interpreted with a framework of solidifying fundamental understanding of data analysis and of carrying through these skills in the daily administration of decisions in managing production, people, money, and all forms of resources. This book hopes to complement with the other existing books in research and statistics that prefer to treat problems manually and explain applications theoretically. Students doing basic high school research will benefit from this book. College and graduate students who are doing a classroom research activity will also take full advantage of this. However, some novice researchers and professionals may find this manuscript equally useful; and those others who decided to dislike mathematics but found awe in it nonetheless. This book is really for them. Presents information on the fundamentals of T-SQL to develop code and query and modify data in Microsoft SQL Server 2012. The must-read summary of Randall E. Stross' book: "The Microsoft Way: The Real Story of How the Company Outsmarts Its Competition". This complete summary of the ideas from Randall E. Stross' book "The Microsoft Way" shows that, for one reason or another, most people seem to assume Microsoft's success has been the result of predatory marketing. In his book, the author reveals that the success of Microsoft is actually the direct result of three factors: the company's ability to hire and retain intelligent employees, the application of bright ideas to developing new software products and an eagerness to use market feedback intelligently to improve successive product generations. This summary demonstrates how each of these factors is beneficial and how they all come together to form the successful, world-class company that is Microsoft. Added-value of this summary: • Save time • Understand key concepts • Expand your knowledge To learn more, read "The Microsoft Way" and discover the secrets behind the success of this great company. New developments in mass spectrometry have allowed routine identification and lowered limits of detection at levels only imagined a decade ago. Thousands of contaminants and residues in the food supply and the environment are now being reported. Between 2005 and 2010, more than 5,000 publications covering TOF-MS and environmental and food analysis were published, showing the importance of the technique in these applications. This book covers the basic principles of method development in GC- and LC-TOF-MS as well as the main operational parameters related to TOF-MS. The second part focuses on the relevant environmental applications, including quality control aspects as well as data collection. The third part is devoted to relevant applications in food analysis, including validation procedures for screening analysis as well as relevant databases. Outlines basic concepts and principles of gas and liquid chromatography TOF-MS and its application in food analysis Includes quality control and data collection techniques Focuses on environmental implications and safety concerns SQL Server 2008 introduces many new features that will change database administration procedures; many DBAs will be forced to migrate to SQL Server 2008. This book teaches you how to develop the skills required to successfully administer a SQL Server 2008 database; no prior experience is required. The material covers system installation and configuration/architecting, implementing and monitoring security controls, configuring and managing network communications, automating administration tasks, disaster prevention and recovery, performance monitoring, optimizing and ensuring high availability, as well as major SQL Server 2008 components including Integration Services, Reporting Services, Analysis Services, and Service Broker. Microsoft on Trial analyses the antitrust cases that have involved Microsoft in both sides of the Atlantic and offers a thorough and timely discussion on the regulation of unilateral behaviour in a topical sector. This fascinating and highly topical book facilitates discussion on the difficult technical, legal and economic issues with respect to innovation, competition and welfare raised, through the span of more than a decade, by the US and EC Microsoft antitrust cases. It assesses their impact on the evolution of EC and US laws on competition and intellectual property in the IT sector and beyond. A must-have guide for troubleshooting and analyzing TCP/IP on the Internet and corporate network Follows a practical approach to ensure that TCP/IP stays up and running Describes problems based on actual scenarios in the field and presents proven solutions to deal with them Explains how to use available tools and utilities to their maximum advantage Companion Web site includes sample scenarios and code from the book A clear, concise, and easy-to-use guide to financial modelling suitable for practitioners at every level Using a fundamental approach to financial modelling that's accessible to both new and experienced professionals, Using Excel for Business Analysis: A Guide to Financial Modelling Fundamentals + Website offers practical guidance for anyone looking to build financial models for business proposals, to evaluate opportunities, or to craft financial reports. Comprehensive in nature, the book covers the principles and best practices of financial modelling, including the Excel tools, formulas, and functions to master, and the techniques and strategies necessary to eliminate errors. As well as explaining the essentials of financial modelling, Using Excel for Business Analysis is packed with exercises and case studies to help you practice and test your comprehension, and includes additional resources online. Provides comprehensive coverage of the principles and best practices of financial modeling, including planning, how to structure a model, layout, the anatomy of a good model, rebuilding an inherited model, and much more Demonstrates the technical Excel tools and techniques needed to build a good model successfully Outlines the skills you need to learn in order to be a good financial modeller, such as technical, design, and business and industry knowledge Illustrates successful best practice modeling techniques such as linking, formula consistency, formatting, and labeling Describes strategies for reducing errors and how to build error checks and other methods to ensure accurate and robust models A practical guide for professionals, including those who do not come from a financial background, Using Excel for Business Analysis is a fundamentals-rich approach to financial modeling. If you want to engage, motivate, and retain young workers without driving the veteran workers away, Generation Blend can help you. This timely book explores how generational attitudes toward technology affect issues as diverse as recruitment and retention, employee training, management decision-making, collaboration, knowledge sharing, and work/life balance. Looking to solve the puzzle of productivity across the technology age gap? Start with Generation Blend. What Ms Balter's book offers over most or all of the other books on the market is that Ms Balter is able to take a highly technical topic and present it in a manner that is easy to comprehend. It is a book that the reader will often want to read from cover to cover, but it can also act as an excellent reference. Readers of Alison Balter's Mastering Microsoft Access 2002 Desktop Development will learn (A thorough knowledge of Access application development. (Real-world solutions to specific development and programming problems. (Professional programming techniques backed by concise, no-nonsense explanations of the underlying theories. (Debugging and troubleshooting methods to solve problems quickly and get stalled development projects back on track. This groundbreaking book is the first in the Kimball Toolkit series to be product-specific. Microsoft's BI toolset has undergone significant changes in the SQL Server 2005 development cycle. SQL Server 2005 is the first viable, full-functioned data warehouse and business intelligence platform to be offered at a price that will make data warehousing and business intelligence available to a broad set of organizations. This book is meant to offer practical techniques to guide those organizations through the myriad of challenges to true success as measured by contribution to business value. Building a data warehousing and business intelligence system is a complex business and engineering effort. While there are significant technical challenges to overcome in successfully deploying a data warehouse, the authors find that the most common reason for data warehouse project failure is insufficient focus on the business users and business problems. In an effort to help people gain success, this book takes the proven Business Dimensional Lifecycle approach first described in best selling The Data Warehouse Lifecycle Toolkit and applies it to the Microsoft SQL Server 2005 tool set. Beginning with a thorough description of how to gather business requirements, the book then works through the details of creating the target dimensional model, setting up the data warehouse infrastructure, creating the relational atomic database, creating the analysis services databases, designing and building the standard report set, implementing security, dealing with metadata, managing ongoing maintenance and growing the DW/BI system. All of these steps tie back to the business requirements. Each chapter describes the practical steps in the context of the SQL Server 2005 platform. Intended Audience The target audience for this book is the IT department or service provider (consultant) who is: Planning a small to mid-range data warehouse project; Evaluating or planning to use Microsoft technologies as the primary or exclusive data warehouse server technology; Familiar with the general concepts of data warehousing and business intelligence. The book will be directed primarily at the project leader and the warehouse developers, although everyone involved with a data warehouse project will find the book useful. Some of the book's content will be more technical than the typical project leader will need; other chapters and sections will focus on business issues that are interesting to a database administrator or programmer as guiding information. The book is focused on the mass market, where the volume of data in a single application or data mart is less than 500 GB of raw data. While the book does discuss issues around handling larger warehouses in the Microsoft environment, it is not exclusively, or even primarily, concerned with the unusual challenges of

extremely large datasets. About the Authors JOY MUNDY has focused on data warehousing and business intelligence since the early 1990s, specializing in business requirements analysis, dimensional modeling, and business intelligence systems architecture. Joy co-founded InfoDynamics LLC, a data warehouse consulting firm, then joined Microsoft WebTV to develop closed-loop analytic applications and a packaged data warehouse. Before returning to consulting with the Kimball Group in 2004, Joy worked in Microsoft SQL Server product development, managing a team that developed the best practices for building business intelligence systems on the Microsoft platform. Joy began her career as a business analyst in banking and finance. She graduated from Tufts University with a BA in Economics, and from Stanford with an MS in Engineering Economic Systems. WARREN THORNTHWAITTE has been building data warehousing and business intelligence systems since 1980. Warren worked at Metaphor for eight years, where he managed the consulting organization and implemented many major data warehouse systems. After Metaphor, Warren managed the enterprise-wide data warehouse development at Stanford University. He then co-founded InfoDynamics LLC, a data warehouse consulting firm, with his co-author, Joy Mundy. Warren joined up with WebTV to help build a world class, multi-terabyte customer focused data warehouse before returning to consulting with the Kimball Group. In addition to designing data warehouses for a range of industries, Warren speaks at major industry conferences and for leading vendors, and is a long-time instructor for Kimball University. Warren holds an MBA in Decision Sciences from the University of Pennsylvania's Wharton School, and a BA in Communications Studies from the University of Michigan. RALPH KIMBALL, PH.D., has been a leading visionary in the data warehouse industry since 1982 and is one of today's most internationally well-known authors, speakers, consultants, and teachers on data warehousing. He writes the "Data Warehouse Architect" column for Intelligent Enterprise (formerly DBMS) magazine.

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