



Paths of Innovation: Technological Change in 20th-Century America

By David C. Mowery, Nathan Rosenberg

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In 1903 the Wright brothers' airplane travelled a couple of hundred yards. Today fleets of streamlined jets transport millions of people each day to cities worldwide. Between discovery and application, between invention and widespread use, there is a world of innovation, of tinkering, improvement and adaptation. This is the world David Mowery and Nathan Rosenberg map out in *Paths of Innovation*, a tour of the intersecting routes of technological change. Throughout their book, Mowery and Rosenberg demonstrate that the simultaneous emergence of new engineering and applied science disciplines in the universities, in tandem with growth in the Research and Development industry and scientific research, has been a primary factor in the rapid rate of technological change. Innovation and incentives to develop new, viable processes have led to the creation of new economic resources - which will determine the future of technological innovation and economic growth.

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Editorial Review

From Library Journal

This small volume details the laborious, painstaking ways in which technological innovation occurs in America, focusing on the development of four giants: the internal combustion engine, chemicals, electric power, and the electronics revolution. Mowery and Rosenberg, coauthors of *Technology and the Pursuit of Economic Growth* (Cambridge Univ., 1989), are particularly interested here in the "intense period of imaginative design" that lies between the scientific idea and the ultimate product in a particular field. This somewhat scholarly though nonetheless readable work, loaded with not-too-cumbersome footnotes, citations, tables, and graphs, includes ample discussion of the role of universities and the federal government in the research and development (R&D) that led to the success of the four giants, as well as the general importance of R&D in a technological society. Recommended for academic libraries. —Robert Ballou, Atlanta, GA.
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Review

"Rosenberg and Mowery are among the nation's premier historians of technical change. They relate the sagas of four technologies--the internal combustion engine, the chemical industry, electric power, and the electronics revolution that followed the invention of the transistor in 1947--and look for patterns that repeat among the details that do not." *Boston Globe*

About the Author

Jan Fagerberg is Professor at the University of Oslo, where he is affiliated with the Centre for Technology, Innovation and Culture (TIK). David C. Mowery is Milton W. Terrill Professor of Business at the Walter A. Haas School of Business at the University of California, Berkeley. His academic awards include the Raymond Vernon Prize from the Association for Public Policy Analysis and Management, the Economic History Association's Fritz Redlich Prize, the Business History Review's Newcomen Prize, and the Cheit Outstanding Teaching Award. Richard R. Nelson is a Professor at the School of International and Public Affairs, Columbia University, New York

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The book Paths of Innovation: Technological Change in 20th-Century America has a lot of knowledge on it. So when you make sure to read this book you can get a lot of gain. The book was compiled by the very famous author. The author makes some research ahead of write this book. That book very easy to read you can find the point easily after reading this article book.

Jose Rosales:

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