Virtual Technologies: Concepts, Methodologies, Tools, and Applications

Jerzy Kisielnicki Warsaw University, Poland

Volume I



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Section 1. Fundamental Concepts and Theories

This section serves as the foundation for this exhaustive reference tool by addressing crucial theories essential to the understanding of virtual technologies. Chapters found within these pages provide an excellent framework in which to position virtual technologies within the field of information science and technology. Individual contributions provide insight into the emergence of virtual teams and the difficulty in navigating virtual environments, while also exploring critical stumbling blocks of this field. Within this introductory section, the reader can learn and choose from a compendium of expert research on the elemental theories underscoring the research and application of virtual technologies.

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This section presents contemporary coverage of the more formal implications of virtual technologies, more specifically related to the corporate and managerial impact of the core concepts of virtual study, and how these concepts can be applied within organizations. Virtual teams, their construction, and the many issues that are specifically related to their implementation are the focus of this section. Overall, selections seek to answer the fundamental question related to virtual team implementation: How can a virtual team become just as successful, if not more so, than a face-to-face team? Throughout in-depth analyses of the dynamics of virtual teams, methods for advancing creativity, and strategies for developing trust, this section presents a guide for the successful implementation of virtual teams within an organization.
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