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Autore	BRAMBILLA, Alberto
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Note generali	Segue: Appendice

2. Record Nr.	UNINA9910640380003321
Autore	Alberts G (Gerard), <1954->
Titolo	Tales of Electrologica : Computers, Software and People // edited by Gerard Alberts, Jan Friso Groote
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Collana	History of Computing, , 2190-684X
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Soggetti	Computers—History Computer industry Computers Software engineering Indústria informàtica Història de la informàtica History of Computing The Computer Industry Computer Hardware Software Engineering Llibres electrònics
Lingua di pubblicazione	Inglese
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Livello bibliografico	Monografia
Nota di contenuto	Chapter 1. Electrologica, A Gem (Gerard Alberts) -- Chapter 2. Philips and the Fate of Electrologica (Gerard Alberts) -- Chapter 3. From the X1 to the X8 (Huub de Beer) -- Chapter 4. Software Without Memory (Paul Klint) -- Chapter 5. The Mathematical Center, ALGOL 60 and the Electrologica X8 (Frans Kruseman Aretz) -- Chapter 6. History of Dekker's Algorithm for Mutual Exclusion (Dirk Dekker) -- Chapter 7. The Electrologica X8 and the BOL Detector (René van Dantzig) -- Chapter 8. An Early Experiment in Algorithmic Composition (Lambert Meertens).

Manufacturing computers in series was quite a feat in the 1950s. As mathematical as it gets, the machines discussed here were called X1 and X8. The industrial achievement combined with the background in a mathematical research center made the company Electrologica a legend in Dutch computing. The tales in this book are told by those who have a right to tell. Highly engaged professionals take readers back to their pioneering work with the machines and in retrospect unveil some of the values, which went without saying in the 1960s. To disagree, Paul Klint relates the contrasting views on software in Dutch research traditions. ALGOL culture: Frans Kruseman Aretz takes the reader along to the detailed decisions on constructing compilers and shows the values of an ALGOL culture transpiring. Signposts: Dirk Dekker for the first time 'owns' his algorithm for mutual exclusion. In particle physics: René van Dantzig's use case was an Electrologica X8 computer controlling two other computers in three-dimensional detection of colliding particles. Early steps in AI: Lambert Meertens' tale of the X8 machine composing a violin quartet comes with his original presentation, as well as the code in ALGOL 60. The reflections of first hand experiences combine well with the second thoughts of historical research into archival sources. Historians Huub de Beer and Gerard Alberts offer a view into the boardrooms of the local enterprise Electrologica, and of the electronics multinational Philips. Where pioneers and historians meet in an inspiring dialogue, the reader gains a view on the often implicit decisions constituting the field. Fortuitously, a copy of the X8 was retrieved from Kiel, Germany, and put on display at Rijksmuseum Boerhaave, Leiden. Sparked by the very material presence of an X8, the present book takes stock of the state of historiography of Electrologica. Gerard Alberts is an associate professor in History of Digital Cultures, retired from the University of Amsterdam. Jan Friso Groote is a full professor of Formal Methods at the Eindhoven University of Technology. .
