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Autore	Wade Lewis
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Nota di contenuto	Front Cover -- Table of Contents -- List of Illustrations -- Acknowledgements -- List of Abbreviations -- Introduction -- Part 1: Insurance, Privilege and Commercial Policy -- 1. The Royal Insurance Chamber and Colbertian Commercial Policy, 1664-83 -- 2. The Royal Insurance Company and Privilege in Post-Colbertian Commercial Policy, 1683-c. 1700 -- 3. 'Over thirty leagues from the sea': Paris, Information Asymmetries and State Intervention -- Part 2: War, Maritime Commerce and Empire -- 4. Underwriting in War and Peace: Fortune and Failure in the Royal Insurance Chamber, 1668-72 -- 5. The Royal Insurance Company, the Atlantic Empire and Neutral Shipping, 1686-98 -- Part 3: Law, Conflict Resolution and the Absolute Monarchy -- 6. 'In the time of the Ordonnance': Insurance, Law and Maritime Jurisdiction -- 7. Reputation, Conflict Resolution and State Propaganda in the Royal Insurance Chamber, 1668-86 -- 8. Reputation, Conflict Resolution and Privilege in the Royal Insurance Company, 1686-1701 -- Conclusion: Privilege at a Premium -- Bibliography -- Index.
Sommario/riassunto	This book reveals a great deal about the attempts, and failures, of the French absolutist monarchy to stimulate commerce, colonial enterprise and economic growth, and how these attempts and failures contrasted with the successes of Amsterdam and London.

