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Nota di contenuto	The Vision of SEMPER -- I. The Vision of SEMPER -- Secure Electronic Commerce -- Technical Framework -- Legal Framework -- Vision of Future Products -- II. Project Achievements -- Project Achievements -- 5: Organizational Overview -- Architecture -- Experiments -- The Fair Internet Trader -- The Commerce Layer: A Framework for Commercial Transactions -- Fair Exchange: A New Paradigm for Electronic Commerce -- 11: The Payment Framework -- 12: Trust Management in the Certificate Block -- 13: Limiting Liability in Electronic Commerce -- 14: Legal Aspects -- Future Directions in Secure Electronic Commerce.
Sommario/riassunto	Some years ago, businesses could choose whether to migrate to electronic commerce, however, today it seems they have no choice. Predictions indicate that companies that do not make the necessary

changes will be overrun by competition and ultimately fail. Therefore, we see more and more companies undergoing tremendous transformation in order to adapt to the new business paradigm. At the same time new companies are being established. One thing these companies have in common is the increased dependency on security technology. The invention of electronic commerce has changed the role of security technologies from being merely a protector to being also an enabler of electronic commerce, and it is clear that the development of security technology is a key enabler in the growth and deployment of electronic commerce. This has been recognised at European level (European Union 1997e). The launch of a comprehensive EU policy in the area of security in open networks is fairly recent with the adoption of a Communication on cryptography in October 1997 (European Union 1997c). A very important complement and support to the European policy is the European Commission's contribution to overcome technological barriers by giving special importance to R&D (Research and Development) activities. The SEMPER project was launched in September 1995 and was funded partly by the European Community within the Advanced Communication Technologies and Services (ACTS) specific research programme part of the Fourth Framework Program (1994-1998). In this book the SEMPER project team presents in a coherent, integrated, and readable form the issues addressed, the motivation for the work carried out, and the key results obtained. SEMPER is an innovative project in several aspects.
