

1. Record Nr.	UNINA9910785493303321
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Titolo	Black gold [[electronic resource]] : Britain and oil in the twentieth century / / Charles More
Pubbl/distr/stampa	London, : Continuum, 2009
ISBN	1-282-87593-0 9786612875939 1-4411-7477-X
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (256 p.)
Disciplina	338.272820904
Soggetti	Petroleum industry and trade - History - 20th century Petroleum industry and trade - Political aspects Petroleum industry and trade - Great Britain - History - 20th century
Lingua di pubblicazione	Inglese
Formato	Materiale a stampa
Livello bibliografico	Monografia
Note generali	Description based upon print version of record.
Nota di bibliografia	Includes bibliographical references and index.
Nota di contenuto	Contents; Preface; 1 Coming of Age: Oil 1900-18; 2 The World of Oil 1918-39; 3 Kerosene Lamps and Petrol Pumps: The British People and Oil 1900-39; 4 Britain, Oil and the Second World War; 5 The World of Oil 1945-73; 6 Age of Optimism: The British People and Oil 1945-73; 7 Crisis: Oil in the 1970's; 8 The North Sea; 9 Age of Uncertainty: Oil After the Oil Crisis 1980-2000; 10 Conclusion; Notes; Sources and Bibliography; Index
Sommario/riassunto	This book tells the story of the raw material which shaped the twentieth century - and with it the destiny and development of modern Britain. From the first explorations, through oil-fueled conflicts and the crises of the 1970's that convulsed the petroleum-guzzling nations of the developed world, this book examines the political, strategic, economic and social importance of oil.