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Titolo	Staying afloat [[electronic resource]] : risk and uncertainty in Spanish Atlantic world trade, 1760-1820 // Jeremy Baskes
Pubbl/distr/stampa	Stanford, Calif., : Stanford University Press, 2013
ISBN	0-8047-8635-6
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (xiv, 393 pages) : illustrations (black and white)
Collana	Social Science History Social science history
Disciplina	382.0946/01821
Soggetti	Risk management - Spain - History Merchant marine - Spain - History Marine insurance - Spain - History Spain Colonies America History Spain Commerce America History America Commerce Spain History
Lingua di pubblicazione	Inglese
Formato	Materiale a stampa
Livello bibliografico	Monografia
Note generali	Bibliographic Level Mode of Issuance: Monograph
Nota di bibliografia	Includes bibliographical references and index.
Nota di contenuto	Introduction : risk and uncertainty -- Staying informed : the risks of poor information in Atlantic world trade -- The institutions of trade and the reduction of market risk : the convoy system -- Comercio libre and the rise of commercial risk -- The rising demand for credit and the escalation of risk in the post-1778 era -- Trade in war and peace -- Underwriting risk : the structure and organization of insurance partnerships in late eighteenth-century Cadiz -- Insuring against risk : analysis of insurance policies and the perception of risk in Atlantic world trade -- War and commercial crisis : the profitability of the Cadiz insurance industry in the 1790s -- Conclusion : staying afloat.
Sommario/riassunto	Early modern, long-distance trade was fraught with risk and uncertainty, driving merchants to seek means to reduce them. In the traditional historiography on Spanish colonial trade, the role of risk is largely ignored. Instead, the guild (consulado) merchants are depicted as anti-competitive monopolists who manipulated markets and exploited colonial consumers. This book argues that much of the commercial behaviour interpreted by modern historians as predatory

was instead designed to reduce the uncertainty and risk of Atlantic world trade.
