Record Nr. UNINA9910812319903321 Autore Dow Gregory K. <1954-> **Titolo** Governing the firm: workers' control in theory and practice // Gregory K. Dow Cambridge;; New York,: Cambridge University Press, 2003 Pubbl/distr/stampa **ISBN** 1-107-13549-4 1-280-16296-1 0-511-06139-0 0-511-12100-8 1-139-14865-6 0-511-05506-4 0-511-30865-5 0-511-61584-1 0-511-06985-5 Edizione [1st ed.] Descrizione fisica 1 online resource (xv, 323 pages) : digital, PDF file(s) Disciplina 338.6 Soggetti Industrial management - Employee participation Employee ownership Corporate governance Industrial organization (Economic theory) Lingua di pubblicazione Inglese **Formato** Materiale a stampa Livello bibliografico Monografia Title from publisher's bibliographic system (viewed on 05 Oct 2015). Note generali Includes bibliographical references (p. 291-311) and index. Nota di bibliografia Cover; Half-title; Title; Copyright; Dedication; Contents; List of Tables Nota di contenuto and Figures; Preface; 1 Introduction; 2 Normative Perspectives; 3 Workers' Control in Action (I): 4 Workers' Control in Action (II): 5 Conceptual Foundations; 6 Explanatory Strategies; 7 A Question of Objectives; 8 Views from Economic Theory (I); 9 Views from Economic Theory (II); 10 Transitions and Clusters; 11 Toward a Synthesis; 12 Getting There from Here; References; Index Sommario/riassunto Most large firms are controlled by shareholders, who choose the board of directors and can replace the firm's management. In rare instances, however, control over the firm rests with the workforce. Many explanations for the rarity of workers' control have been offered, but

there have been few attempts to assess these hypotheses in a systematic way. This book draws upon economic theory, statistical evidence, and case studies to frame an explanation. The fundamental idea is that labor is inalienable, while capital can be freely transferred from one person to another. This implies that worker-controlled firms typically face financing problems, encounter collective choice dilemmas, and have difficulty creating markets for control positions within the firm. Together these factors can account for much of what is known about the incidence, behavior, and design of worker-controlled firms. A policy proposal to encourage employee buyouts is developed in the concluding chapter.