

1. Record Nr.	UNINA9910816623603321
Titolo	The Dutch trading companies as knowledge networks / / edited by Siegfried Huigen, Jan L. de Jong and Elmer Kolfin
Pubbl/distr/stampa	Leiden ; ; Boston, : Brill, 2010
ISBN	1-283-03948-6 9786613039484 90-04-19356-1
Edizione	[1st ed.]
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (472 p.)
Collana	Intersections ; ; v. 14
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Disciplina	306.4/2091753931
Soggetti	Knowledge, Sociology of - History International travel - History
Lingua di pubblicazione	Inglese
Formato	Materiale a stampa
Livello bibliografico	Monografia
Note generali	Most of the contributions to this volume were first presented during a conference in the National Museum of Ethnology (Museum Volkenkunde) in Leiden, The Netherlands, on October 23-24, 2008. Includes bibliographical references and index.
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Sommario/riassunto

For more than a century, from about 1600 until the early eighteenth century, the Dutch dominated world trade. Via the Netherlands the far reaches of the world, both in the Atlantic and in the East, were connected. Dutch ships carried goods, but they also opened up opportunities for the exchange of knowledge. The commercial networks of the Dutch trading companies provided an infrastructure which was accessible to people with a scholarly interest in the exotic world. The present collection of essays brings together a number of studies about knowledge construction that depended on the Dutch trading networks. Contributors include: Paul Arblaster, Hans den Besten, Frans Blom, Britt Dams, Adrien Delmas, Alette Fleischer, Antje Flüchter, Michiel van Groesen, Henk de Groot, Julie Berger Hochstrasser, Grégoire Holtz, Siegfried Huigen, Elspeth Jajdelska, Maria-Theresia Leuker, Edwin van Meerkerk, Bruno Naarden, and Christina Skott.
