Record Nr. UNINA9910817901603321 Autore Muller Simone M. Titolo Wiring the world: the social and cultural creation of global telegraph networks / / Simone M. Muller Pubbl/distr/stampa New York:,: Columbia University Press,, 2016 ©2016 **ISBN** 0-231-54026-4 1 online resource (384 pages) Descrizione fisica Columbia Studies in International and Global History Collana Classificazione NW 3470 Disciplina 384.1 Telegraph - History Soggetti Transatlantic cables Telegraph - Economic aspects Lingua di pubblicazione Inglese **Formato** Materiale a stampa Livello bibliografico Monografia Description based upon print version of record. Note generali Includes bibliographical references and index. Nota di bibliografia Nota di contenuto Frontmatter -- CONTENTS -- ACKNOWLEDGMENTS -- Introduction: The Class of 1866 -- 1. Networking the Atlantic -- 2. The Battle for Cable Supremacy -- 3. The Imagined Globe -- 4. Weltcommunication -- 5. The Professionalization of the Telegraph Engineer -- 6. Cable Diplomacy and Imperial Control -- 7. The Wiring of the World --Appendix: Actors of Globalization -- Notes -- Bibliography -- Index Sommario/riassunto The successful laying of a transatlantic cable in 1866 remade world communications. A message could travel across the ocean in minutes, shrinking the space between continents, cultures, and nations. An eclectic group of engineers, entrepreneurs, politicians, and media visionaries then developed this technology into a telecommunications system that spread a particular vision of civilization-but not everyone wanted to wire the world the same way. Wiring the World is a cultural and social history that explores how the large Anglo-American cable companies won out over alternative visions. Bitter rivalries emerged over telegram prices, visions for world peace, scientific innovation, and

the role of the nation-state. Such struggles determined the growth of cable technology, which in turn influenced world history. Filled with fascinating characters and new insights into pivotal events, Wiring the World traces globalization's diverse paths and close ties to business