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	Sommario/riassunto	"From its first glimmerings in the 1950's, the software industry has evolved to become the fourth largest industrial sector of the U.S. economy. Starting with a handful of software contractors who produced specialized programs for the few existing machines, the industry grew to include producers of corporate software packages and then makers of mass-market products and recreational software. This book tells the story of each of these types of firm, focusing on the products they developed, the business models they followed, and the markets they served." "By describing the breadth of this industry, Martin Campbell-Kelly corrects the popular misconception that one firm is at the center of the software universe. He also tells the story of lucrative software

products such as IBM's CICS and SAP's R/3, which, though little known to the general public, lie at the heart of today's information infrastructure."--Jacket.