Record Nr. UNINA9910956745103321 Autore Winsor Dorothy A Titolo Writing power: communication in an engineering center / / Dorothy A. Winsor Pubbl/distr/stampa Albany, : State University of New York Press, c2003 **ISBN** 9780791486702 0791486702 Edizione [1st ed.] Descrizione fisica 1 online resource (184 p.) SUNY series, Studies in scientific and technical communication Collana Disciplina 620/.001/4 Soggetti Communication in engineering **Technical writing** Lingua di pubblicazione Inglese **Formato** Materiale a stampa Livello bibliografico Monografia Description based upon print version of record. Note generali Nota di bibliografia Includes bibliographical references (p. 163-170) and index. Nota di contenuto ""Writing Power""; ""Contents""; ""Illustrations""; ""Acknowledgments""; ""Vignette 1. Scenes in an Engineering Center(and Elsewhere)""; ""1. Using Writing to Negotiate Knowledge and Power""; ""Vignette 2. Two Hours in an Afternoonof a Manager: Doug""; ""2. Managing the Organization Through Powerful Texts""; ""Vignette 3. A Meeting with Engineers: John""; ""3. Negotiating Knowledge Across, Down, and Up the Hierarchy""; ""Vignette 4. Two Hours in a Techniciana€?s Afternoon: Rich""; ""4. Amassing Knowledge in the Hands of the More Powerful"" ""Vignette 5. An Engineering Interna€?s Morning: Kevin"""5. Entering Systems of Knowledge/Power""; ""6. Knowledge/Power/Texts in an Engineering Center"; ""Notes"; ""Bibliography""; ""Index""; ""A""; ""B""; ""C""; ""D""; ""E""; ""F""; ""G""; ""H""; ""I""; ""K""; ""L""; ""M""; ""N""; ""O""; ""P"": ""S"": ""T"": ""U"": ""V"": ""W"": ""Y"": ""Z"" Sommario/riassunto Winner of the 2004 Distinguished Publication on Business Communication presented by the Association of Business CommunicationWriting Power examines the way that texts, knowledge, and hierarchy generate and support one another within a for-profit

corporation. By encouraging us to see texts and writing as powerful operators in the corporate world, this book presents a case study focused on how one engineering organization uses texts to create and maintain its knowledge and power structure. Based on over five years

of observations, the book describes the co-generation of

power/knowledge/text from several points of view, including that of managers, engineers, interns, and blue-collar workers. These groups of people use texts to build knowledge within their own areas and establish control over their work when it is passed along to the other groups. Employing Bourdieu's notion that people possess different kinds of "capital" that can be converted to one another under the right circumstances, the book demonstrates that text is one of the major ways that this conversion of capital takes place, and is thus one of the major ways that power and knowledge are generated and accumulated.