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Network data and how to get them; Limitations of the study; Problems of generalization; 3 The Evolution of Russia's IT Sector; Arcadia: The birth of a St. Petersburg software company; Computing in the Soviet Union; Information technology and the collapse of the Soviet Union; The ICT sector in the Post-Soviet Russian economy; 4 The Soviet Legacy and its Transformation in the Russian IT Field; Constraining and enabling aspects of the Soviet legacy; Soviet organizations as platforms for the emerging economy; Entrepreneurship and Soviet legacy
Blat: Transformation of the Soviet-era networking practice; Blat in post-Soviet Russia; Barter: A transitory phenomenon of exchange; Otkat: The role of 'kickbacks' in the Russian economy; Other informal practices in the post-Soviet Russian economy; Prevalence of criminal practices in the Russian economy; 5 Social Milieus and Personal Network Growth in the St. Petersburg IT Industry; Schools and universities; Internet milieus; The Russian Software Developers Association (RUSSOFT); Birthdays as foci of interaction
6 The Types of Economic Resources Transmitted through the Networks of St. Petersburg IT Professionals; Business ideas and partners; Clients; Starting capital; Office space; Jobs; Advice and information; Services; 7 Social Mechanisms Governing the Informal Transactions between Russian IT Managers; Reciprocal expectations in Russian managers' transactions; Brokerage; The mixing of personal and professional spheres of life; 8 The Spirit of Russian IT Capitalism; The connexionist spirit of Western capitalism; The domestic spirit of Russian IT capitalism; 9 Conclusions; Appendix: List of Respondents -- Notes -- References -- Index

Sommario/riassunto

A PDF version of this book is available for free in open access via the OAPEN Library platform, www.oapen.org. This book examines the significance of networks among the firms operative in the contemporary Russian software industry in the St. Petersburg region.
