



The Computer Boys Take Over: Computers, Programmers, and the Politics of Technical Expertise (History of Computing)

Nathan L. Ensmenger

Download now

[Click here](#) if your download doesn't start automatically

The Computer Boys Take Over: Computers, Programmers, and the Politics of Technical Expertise (History of Computing)

Nathan L. Ensmenger

The Computer Boys Take Over: Computers, Programmers, and the Politics of Technical Expertise (History of Computing) Nathan L. Ensmenger

This is a book about the computer revolution of the mid-20th century and the people who made it possible. Unlike most histories of computing, it is not a book about machines, inventors, or entrepreneurs. Instead, it tells the story of the vast but largely anonymous legions of computer specialists—programmers, systems analysts, and other software developers—who transformed the electronic computer from a scientific curiosity into the defining technology of the modern era. Known alternatively as "whiz kids," "hackers," and "gurus," this new breed of technical specialists were alternately admired for their technical prowess and despised for their eccentric mannerisms and the disruptive potential of the technologies they developed. As the systems that they built became evermore powerful and ubiquitous, these specialists became the focus of a series of critiques of the social and organizational impact of electronic computing. To many of their contemporaries, it seemed the "computer boys" were taking over, not just in the corporate setting, but also in government, politics, and society in general.

In *The Computer Boys Take Over*, Nathan Ensmenger traces the rise to power of the computer expert in modern American society. He follows the history of computer programming from its origins as low-status, largely feminized labor in the secret wartime computing projects through its reinvention as a glamorous "black art" practiced by "computer cowboys" in the 1950s through its rationalization in the 1960s as the academic discipline of computer science and the software engineering profession. His rich and nuanced portrayal of the men and women (a surprising number of the "computer boys" were, in fact, female) who built their careers around the novel technology of electronic computing explores issues of power, identity, and expertise that have only become more significant to our increasingly computerized society. His detailed analysis of the pervasive "software crisis" rhetoric of the late 1960s shows how seemingly technical debates about how to manage large-scale software development projects reflected deeper concerns about the growing power and influence of technical specialists in corporate, academic, and governmental organizations.

In his recasting of the drama of the computer revolution through the eyes of its principle revolutionaries, Ensmenger reminds us that the computerization of modern society was not an inevitable process driven by impersonal technological or economic imperatives, but was rather a creative, contentious, and above all, fundamentally human development.

 [Download The Computer Boys Take Over: Computers, Programmer ...pdf](#)

 [Read Online The Computer Boys Take Over: Computers, Programm ...pdf](#)

Download and Read Free Online The Computer Boys Take Over: Computers, Programmers, and the Politics of Technical Expertise (History of Computing) Nathan L. Ensmenger

From reader reviews:

Arthur Seaton:

Now a day individuals who Living in the era just where everything reachable by connect with the internet and the resources within it can be true or not require people to be aware of each data they get. How individuals to be smart in acquiring any information nowadays? Of course the answer is reading a book. Reading through a book can help folks out of this uncertainty Information especially this The Computer Boys Take Over: Computers, Programmers, and the Politics of Technical Expertise (History of Computing) book because book offers you rich information and knowledge. Of course the knowledge in this book hundred per cent guarantees there is no doubt in it everbody knows.

Betty Abbott:

Reading a e-book tends to be new life style with this era globalization. With reading through you can get a lot of information which will give you benefit in your life. Having book everyone in this world can share their idea. Ebooks can also inspire a lot of people. Plenty of author can inspire their very own reader with their story or maybe their experience. Not only situation that share in the publications. But also they write about the information about something that you need illustration. How to get the good score toefl, or how to teach your sons or daughters, there are many kinds of book which exist now. The authors on earth always try to improve their talent in writing, they also doing some research before they write for their book. One of them is this The Computer Boys Take Over: Computers, Programmers, and the Politics of Technical Expertise (History of Computing).

Ronda Hagerty:

This The Computer Boys Take Over: Computers, Programmers, and the Politics of Technical Expertise (History of Computing) is great reserve for you because the content which is full of information for you who else always deal with world and have to make decision every minute. This kind of book reveal it information accurately using great arrange word or we can declare no rambling sentences inside. So if you are read it hurriedly you can have whole information in it. Doesn't mean it only offers you straight forward sentences but hard core information with splendid delivering sentences. Having The Computer Boys Take Over: Computers, Programmers, and the Politics of Technical Expertise (History of Computing) in your hand like obtaining the world in your arm, details in it is not ridiculous one particular. We can say that no e-book that offer you world inside ten or fifteen second right but this reserve already do that. So , this is certainly good reading book. Heya Mr. and Mrs. occupied do you still doubt that will?

Lionel Gutierrez:

This The Computer Boys Take Over: Computers, Programmers, and the Politics of Technical Expertise (History of Computing) is brand-new way for you who has intense curiosity to look for some information since it relief your hunger info. Getting deeper you on it getting knowledge more you know or perhaps you

who still having little bit of digest in reading this The Computer Boys Take Over: Computers, Programmers, and the Politics of Technical Expertise (History of Computing) can be the light food in your case because the information inside this specific book is easy to get simply by anyone. These books create itself in the form and that is reachable by anyone, yeah I mean in the e-book form. People who think that in publication form make them feel tired even dizzy this guide is the answer. So there is no in reading a book especially this one. You can find what you are looking for. It should be here for a person. So , don't miss the idea! Just read this e-book sort for your better life along with knowledge.

**Download and Read Online The Computer Boys Take Over:
Computers, Programmers, and the Politics of Technical Expertise
(History of Computing) Nathan L. Ensmenger #YP04MGNV1RC**

Read The Computer Boys Take Over: Computers, Programmers, and the Politics of Technical Expertise (History of Computing) by Nathan L. Ensmenger for online ebook

The Computer Boys Take Over: Computers, Programmers, and the Politics of Technical Expertise (History of Computing) by Nathan L. Ensmenger Free PDF d0wnl0ad, audio books, books to read, good books to read, cheap books, good books, online books, books online, book reviews epub, read books online, books to read online, online library, greatbooks to read, PDF best books to read, top books to read The Computer Boys Take Over: Computers, Programmers, and the Politics of Technical Expertise (History of Computing) by Nathan L. Ensmenger books to read online.

Online The Computer Boys Take Over: Computers, Programmers, and the Politics of Technical Expertise (History of Computing) by Nathan L. Ensmenger ebook PDF download

The Computer Boys Take Over: Computers, Programmers, and the Politics of Technical Expertise (History of Computing) by Nathan L. Ensmenger Doc

The Computer Boys Take Over: Computers, Programmers, and the Politics of Technical Expertise (History of Computing) by Nathan L. Ensmenger Mobipocket

The Computer Boys Take Over: Computers, Programmers, and the Politics of Technical Expertise (History of Computing) by Nathan L. Ensmenger EPub