

# Preface

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The research for this study has been supported at a number of points by the Faculty of Economics and Business in the University of Sydney. I would like to express my gratitude in particular to the Dean, Professor Peter Wolnizer, and to the Head of the School of Business, Professor Sid Gray. I have also enjoyed working with two exceptionally able research assistants, Sebastian Kevany and Attila Balogh. However, the study would not have been possible at all without the cooperation of a substantial number of people who agreed to share their experiences, some in highly informal interviews and some in more structured situations. The managers and public officials who responded to my questions are uniformly anonymous in the text, but each chapter is far better for their input. Errors and weakness in the argument are my responsibility.

The approach taken is described in the Introduction. However, there is one point about the use of sources that deserves emphasis. The text rests on secondary literature and statistical materials, supplemented by individual experiences, which, as noted already, remain anonymous. Parallel to the text there are a number of illustrative case studies. Because the firms are almost all identified by name, the material in these sections has been restricted to publicly available information, and the sources are identified at the end of each case. The analyses of these cases are mine alone, based on my judgment of these materials.

There are debts that cannot be repaid, merely acknowledged. My wife Elise and our two daughters Lee and Christine, my sister-in-law, also Christine, and my mother-in-law Daisy, all are owed far more than I can ever repay.

FBT  
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