

Preface and acknowledgments

In 2004 the US Department of Homeland Security established the first of a series of research centers at US universities studying terrorism and counter-terrorism at the University of Southern California (USC). The center, CREATE (Center for Risk and Economic Analysis of Terrorism Events), focuses on two major issues, risk analysis and economic impacts. Subsequent research centers have different research agendas. CREATE is primarily a combination of researchers in two schools at USC, the Viterbi School of Engineering and the School of Policy, Planning and Development under the co-directorship of Professors Randolph W. Hall and Detlof Winterfeldt. Researchers at other universities are also involved as part of a consortium; some of them are chapter authors in this book. This book is one of the early products from CREATE initially under the Co-Directors. Now Professor Detlof Winterfeldt is the sole Director because of Professor Randolph W. Hall's transfer to a Vice-Provost position.

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