Preface and acknowledgements

This book is a result of the Center for Research in Regulated Industries (CRRI) 16th Conference on Postal and Delivery Economics which was held on May 28 to May 31, 2008 in Albufeira, Portugal. This conference and this book follow earlier conferences and workshops. In 1990, the first Conference on Postal and Delivery Economics was held at Coton House, Rugby, England, July 22–25, 1990, in honor of the 150th anniversary of the Penny Post and the contributions of Sir Rowland Hill. To date there have been 16 conferences, three workshops and now 15 edited volumes as part of CRRI's program on Postal and Delivery Economics. The conference has more than tripled from the 65 participants who attended in 1990.

The 2008 Conference was made possible by the support of the following organizations: CRRI, Rutgers Business School, Rutgers University; Royal Mail; Deutsche Post World Net; United States Postal Service; Bank of America; Canada Post Corporation; FedEx; La Poste; De Poste/La Post; Österreichische Post AG; R.R. Donnelley & Sons Company; UPS; Swiss Post; CTT Correios de Portugal S.A.; Pitney Bowes; Postcomm – Postal Services Commission; Siemens AG; United States Postal Regulatory Commission; Posten AB; Finland Post Corporation; Canadian Union of Postal Workers; International Post Corporation; Anacom; An Post; ARCEP; Communication Workers Union; LECG; NERA Economic Consulting; Poste Italiane; Posten Norge AS; Postwatch; Sidley Austin LLP; TNT Post; IBM Global Business Services; Bird & Bird; Comreg; Frontier Economics; Aspen Institute; Fratini Vergano; Oxera Consulting Ltd; Parcel Shippers Association; Brown Rudnick LLP; International Post Corporation; Association for Postal Commerce; d'Alcantara Economic Consulting; Global Envelope Alliance; Kirkpatrick & Lockhart Preston Gates Ellis LLP; London Economics; National Association of Letter Carriers; New Zealand Post; SLS Consulting, Inc.; Venable LLP; and Haldi Associates.

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The usual disclaimers are applicable. In particular, the views expressed reflect the views of the authors and are not necessarily those of the sponsors.

Michael A. Crew and Paul R. Kleindorfer