

Attila Bruni, Laura Lucia Parolin and Cornelius Schubert (Eds.)

Attila Bruni, Parolin Laura Lucia, Cornelius Schubert, Barbara Mellini, Valentin Janda, Teresa Macchia, Mika Pantzar, Sandra Plontke, Sari Yli-Kauhaluoma, Annamaria Recupero, Yoko Akama

# Designing work, technology, organizations and vice versa

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## Summary

The concept of design has been defined in a multitude of ways and used in a variety of academic fields, ranging from the classics of organizational and system design to studies on corporate culture, aesthetics and consumption. However, in mainstream organization and management studies, the concept of design has been 'black-boxed' and easily implied as an updated (and more fashionable) version of the traditional idea of structuring organizational processes. At the same time, working and organizing seem to be embedded nowadays in increasingly complex and situated technologies and practices. If the spreading of information and communication technologies (ICTs) has changed workplaces (and even the very meaning of 'workplace' as an area marked by the physical presence of different human actors), working and organizing mobilizes the joint action of humans, technologies and knowledges.

The aim of the book is thus to discuss the relations among technologies, work and organisations from multiple theoretical perspectives and to engage with questions about design as well as the sociomaterial foundations of working and organising. The book focuses on the close study of practices and processes that inextricably link work and organisation to the use of artefacts and technological systems (and vice versa), exploring by means of different cases of organizational and design research articulations and disarticulations of daily work and design; the doing of objects and technologies in everyday organizational life; the reconstruction of organizational processes through technological and design practices; the relation between learning, innovations and technologies in organizational settings.

The book is addressed to graduate students, PhDs, scholars and researchers interested in the fields of Organization Studies, Science and Technology Studies, Sociology and Design, as well as to professionals and practitioners interested in new methodological approaches towards the relations between technology, work and organization.



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## About the editors

Attila Bruni is Associate Professor at the Department of Sociology and Social Research of the University of Trento, where he teaches Sociology of Technological Phenomena and Sociology of Organizations. He is a passionate ethnographer and his main research interests concern intersections between working, organizing and technological phenomena.

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Cornelius Schubert is a post-doc researcher in the DFG research training programme "Locating Media" at the University of Siegen. He specialises in science and technology studies, medical and organisational sociology and innovation studies. His interests lie in micro-analytical studies of technologies-in-use and the unfolding of technological paths.

The book is the result of a collection of papers submitted and discussed during thematic sessions of various international conferences (EGOS, EASST, STS-Italia). The book also benefits from the insights gained during the second STS-Italia Summer School (2013): "Working and Organizing in Technologically Dense Environments"

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