Welcome! If you have arrived at this book you have an interest in robots or robotics and you are looking for information. This book is the result of a researching, identifying, collecting and creating information and pictures for you.

Robot Companion is a fun, easy-to-understand, hands-on guide that will have you using your own robots in no time. The robot companion contains a diverse set of information and pictures of the robot to familiarizes a person with that robot.

This approach is used because so little information on the robots from the 1980s exists today and it will be helpful with the information instructions or manuals. They dance, tell jokes, and even clean your carpet! From the tiniest robot to gigantic machines, robotics is all around you.

This technology isn't just for science fiction anymore; it is real and more relevant than ever. With stunning visuals and energetic, impact designs, readers won't stop until they've learned everything to know about robots.

To the individuals that have designed and created these robots, and have put part of their lives in their work to successfully create these robots, the goal of this book is recognize these individuals and is dedicated to retain this information for history.

This book contains only part of the "First Wave of Robotics" and the research, time, frustrations, hope, knowledge and work that has gone into creating and building these robots pictures and information should be recognized.

The next generation of individuals and robots, will probably look different than addressed here. It is with this understanding that they will look different and present a different view.

The information and pictures of these robots is a recording of part of our history of robots and is intended to be part of that process. I hope that you copy and retain many or all of the pictures and information that is presented here and reuse them, as you need.

Robots are hear and now. In this day and age we tend to forget that robots are not a thing of the past, but are with us every day. As we paint or draw, look, sell, collect information, repair and use toy, educational, personal, industrial and commercial robots, I will still have people to ask me.

"What useful purpose do they serve? What can they do? Can they help me with my work? Are these just toys for children? Do they take my job away from me?"

My answer is: "They can do work and help us make a living and make our lives easier. It puts food on the table and a roof over our head. Robots help us do work, learn and entertain us, and is the proving grounds of our future advances in that technology, and it could be viewed as a experimental stage of our ideas."

I cannot say that robots of today are our products of tomorrow because they are our products of today. More than half of the world uses robots, or make there living from it. Engineering Design, Manufacturing, Delivery, Sales, Marketing, Management and Law are just a few of the areas affected.

Our Economy in this Century will be in very poor shape if it was not for robots.
My appreciation to all that have contributed pictures, information, sources, and allowed me to use it in creating this book. The pictures used are originals taken, manufactured or created from my robots, composite of pictures made by me, the manuals, instruction sheets, pictures or information sent to me. Advertisement and letters saved from the 1980s, Magazines no longer printed, and pictures from the internet from other hobbyists.

SPECIAL NOTE: To Heath, RB Robotics, Androbot, TTC, Tomy, CBS Toys, 2001 Trendmasters, Inc, Radio Shack, Clone, Ideal, Hasbro, and All Other Companies That Manufacture The Robots, or Companies That Claim Ownership, of pictures and information that are presented in this book. This book represents a presentation of my collection of robots and is for hobbyist only, and not for commercial use. It is not intended to represent your company or implied prior approval of anyone or any company, and any pictures or information that is in conflict with your company or policies, will be revised when requested. I would like you to consider that the pictures and information are of both a collector and historical interest to many people. Many times when such a collector comes into ownership of one of these robots, it is incomplete, they rarely obtain all of the information and material that comes with it. Without this information, they have an incomplete item.

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Heath Co. for (Zennith) - Heathkit® - Heathkit® Produced the Hero®, Hero Jr®, Hero 2000® and the Hero Arm Trainer®. Formerly from Heathkit, then Mobile Ed Productions, Now Proudly brought to you by the Robot Workshop! Educational and Personal Robots.

Tomy Co Ltd. produced the Omnibot line of robots from 1982 up until 1988 - TOMY Co., Ltd. - In Japanese, K.K. Takara-Tomy Company Ltd. Founded March 1, 2006. Headquarters & HQs in Japan, United States, United Kingdom, France, Hong Kong, Thailand. TOMY Co., Ltd. is the legal English name for the Japanese toy, children merchandise and entertainment company created on March 1, 2006 by the merger of "former" Tomy (Founded 1924) with Takara Co. Ltd. (Founded 1955). However, the new company made the unusual decision to adopt two different legal corporate names so while in English the name is simply TOMY, in Japanese the legal company name is the combined name, K.K. Takara-Tomy.

Tomy produced the largest robot line of the 80's. Tomy was very successful compared to other companies, and therefore many attempted to copy Tomy's robot image (decals, colors). Robots Produced not limited to, but include: Omnibot®, Omnibot® 2000, HearOid® (TTC), Omni Jr., Verbot®, Chatbot®, Crackbot®, Bustbot®, Hearbot®, Dingbot®, Flipbot®, Spotbot®.

Radio Shack - Radio Shack produced not limited to, but include: Robies® Sr, Robies® Jr, Robies® The Talking Robot, Mobile Armatron®, Armatron®, Super Armatron®, and the Z-707 Iron Claw®

Axion produced robots from 1984 up until 1986/7 - Axion produced a number of robots that include: Compurobot/George, Dogbot, Spybot, Talkbot. Compurobot was marketed as George in the UK by CCL but was Axion design. The Axion company was founded by Nolan Bushnell (creator of Atari, Androbot Inc.) in 1984. Axion was largely sold to Hasbro.

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