



## The Idea of Technological Innovation

### A Brief Alternative History

Benoît Godin, Institut National de la Recherche Scientifique (INRS), Canada

This timely book explores technological innovation as a concept, dissecting its emergence, development and use. Benoît Godin offers an exciting new historiography of the subject, arguing that the study of innovation originates not from scholars but from practitioners of innovation.

'Benoît Godin's *The Idea of Technological Innovation* is a telling example of the power of intellectual history. In a brief but analytically crisp and extensively documented historical overview, Godin's "alternative history" unbundles the seemingly inextricable conceptual and policy linkages between research and development and technological innovation, positing instead that the two stages correspond to two discourses, espoused by two different communities. An invaluable work for multiple research and policy communities, but most especially for those engaged in science policy and innovation studies and the economics of technological innovation.'

– Irwin Feller, The Pennsylvania State University, US

'Godin's latest book provides new insights into the history of technology innovation. Tracing back the concept's phases of development from the Second World War to the present, he leaves behind a strictly scholarly point of view and focuses on the valuable contributions of practitioners.'

– Jürgen Howaldt, TU Dortmund University, Germany



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