《GO TO(软件历史上的天才人物)》

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内容概要

The remarkable story of the scientific revolution that made the new economy possible-software-told through the unsung heroes of programming and their achievements.

In the 1950s, just before John Backus's team developed the Fortran language that revolutionized the first generation of programming, it took dozens of full-time programmers and operators to run and debug each of the era's room-sized computers. Today, languages like HTML are simple enough that anyone who knows it can set up a personal Web page, using a laptop that has many times the power of those early giant computers.

In Go To, Steve Lohr chronicles the history of software from the early days of complex mathematical codes mastered by a few thousand to today's era of user-friendly software and over six million professional programmers worldwide. Lohr maps out the unique seductions of programming, and gives us an intimate portrait of the peculiar kind of genius that is drawn to this unique blend of art, science, and engineering.

We meet the movers and shakers of every era from the 1950s to the open-source movement of today-iconoclasts such as Ken Thompson and Dennis Ritchie, the Bell Labs engineers whose Unix operating system and C programming language loosened the grip of IBM; Charles Simonyi, the father of Word, the most popular software application; and James Gosling, the creative force behind Java, the leading programming language for the Internet. With original reporting and deft storytelling, Steve Lohr shows us how software transformed the world, and what it holds in store for our future.

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作者简介

STEVE LOHR is senior writer and technology correspondent for the New Fork Times, and is co-author of U.S. vs. Microsoft. He lives is New York City

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