

CONTENTS

Foreword	5
1. Large technical systems: Concepts and issues <i>Bernward Joerges</i>	9
2. The emergence of an early large-scale technical system: The American railroad network <i>Stephen Salisbury</i>	37
3. The evolution of the technical system of railways in France from 1832 to 1937 <i>François Caron</i>	69
4. The development of the German railroad system <i>G. Wolfgang Heinze and Heinrich H. Kill</i>	105
5. Looking for the boundaries of technological determinism: A brief history of the U.S. telephone system <i>Louis Galambos</i>	135
6. The telephone in France 1879 to 1979: National characteristics and international influences <i>Catherine Bertho-Lavenir</i>	155
7. The politics of growth: The German telephone system <i>Frank Thomas</i>	179
8. The United States air traffic system: Increasing reliability in the midst of rapid growth <i>Todd La Porte</i>	215
9. The French electrical power system: An inter-country comparison <i>Maurice Lévy-Leboyer</i>	245
10. The dynamics of system development in a comparative perspective: Interactive videotex in Germany, France and Britain <i>Renate Mayntz and Volker Schneider</i>	263
Contributors	299