**INFORMATION
TECHNOLOGY**

*&
The Law*

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

& The Law

Chris Edwards · Nigel Savage

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PREFACE

The law can be seen as a controlling mechanism for the protection of an individual's rights. As the application of information technology spreads it will impinge upon the daily lives of ordinary people: say by retailers being able to instantly and directly check credit worthiness. Such power needs to be controlled for the protection of all. This book is an attempt to bring together all those areas where information technology and the law relate. This is not an uncomplicated matter at present as the technology is marching forward very quickly, and in some areas the law moves even faster.

However, it is vital professionals involved with information technology understand the impact of the law. To this end we have attempted to bring together the very best academics and professionals in each of the major areas for them to explain in simple, non-technical language the effects of the law upon the application of information technology.

The book is directly aimed at data processing, information systems and computer professions who need to know of the legal constraints upon their discipline. We do hope the language and presentation style make difficult legal matters understandable by these non-legal specialists.

We should like to express our thanks to Brigitte Courtney of the Cranfield School of Management for her excellent efforts in typesetting the book.

Our special thanks are offered to the contributors who have responded quickly to our requests even though in every case they are very busy people.

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