

# The Shock of the Old



## THE SHOCK OF THE OLD

TECHNOLOGY AND GLOBAL HISTORY SINCE 1900

DAVID EDGERTON

"A splendid corrective to all victims of technodazzle and neophilia.  
Marvelous stuff, and absolutely spot-on." — Simon Jenkins

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出版者:Oxford University Press

出版时间:2007-1-22

装帧:Hardcover

isbn:9781861972965

From the books of H.G. Wells to the press releases of NASA, we are awash in clichéd claims about high technology's ability to change the course of history. Now, in *The Shock of the Old*, David Edgerton offers a startling new and fresh way of thinking about the history of technology, radically revising our ideas about the interaction of technology and society in the past and in the present. He challenges us to view the history of technology in terms of what everyday people have actually used—and continue to use—rather than just sophisticated inventions. Indeed, many highly touted technologies, from the V-2 rocket to the Concorde jet, have been costly failures, while many mundane discoveries, like corrugated iron, become hugely important around the world. Edgerton reassesses the significance of such acclaimed inventions as the Pill and information technology, and underscores the continued importance of unheralded technology, debunking many notions about the implications of the "information age." A provocative history, *The Shock of the Old* provides an entirely new way of looking historically at the relationship between invention and innovation.

## 作者介绍:

David Edgerton is the Hans Rausing Professor at Imperial College, London, where he was the founding director of the Centre for the History of Science, Technology and Medicine.

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## 标签

history\_of\_technology

历史

设计

英文原版

科普

梁文道推荐

传播学

technology\_and\_society

评论

technology in 20th century; what are used and why they are selected; how they appeared and re-appeared in what form.

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only introduction and conclusion

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大烂书……罗列了很多数据，观点毫无逻辑

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导论的确很有启发性。 killing一章有必要吗？这些题材跟技术关系很大吗？  
感觉应该加一章，讲讲技术封锁和共享。

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书评

说的是本书的翻译。

本来对这本书期望很大，谁知道买回来才读了几页就被那无良的翻译弄坏了情绪。

举例如下：1、正文第1页最后两行：

这些记述与人们在能够作出历史性分析之前很久时对技术重要意义所作的断言有惊人的相似之处。——这个还勉强能猜出来原作者的本意。2、...

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这个本书的英文版写的是相当的好，在美国这边被认为是科普佳作，简单，直白。

上海科技一直也是个不错的出版社，但是不知道这次是哪个编辑头脑一热找了这么个翻译，翻译质量明显不行，有这么几点：

1.名义上有两个译者，但是第二个从头到尾都没有交代到底做了什么，连译者的话...

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《老科技的全球史》是一本探讨科技历史观的著作。

不同于主流的科技史观所认为的关键的科学和技术进步导致了社会变迁、发明家是改变世界的关键先生，书中的科技史观更认为科技不分优劣，并从多个维度做了比较。

作者对主流的一些科技理念持有不同看法，提出了独特的观点。科技...

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