

## Notes to the Reader

All Japanese words in this book have been indicated in italics, except for personal, geographical, and institutional names, or words that occur frequently in a given chapter. Words that are considered to have entered the English language, such as *manga* and *tsunami*, are also set in roman type. Diacritical marks have been omitted in the names of major Japanese cities and the four main islands, except where these names appear in the titles of Japanese publications. Titles of artworks and the like are rendered in the original language at first occurrence, after which a translation and, if necessary, a shortened title in English are given. Product and company names have been rendered in the romanized transcription preferred by the respective company; this results in the occurrence of 'Tobu' next to 'Shōji'. Japanese personal names are presented following the Japanese convention in which the family name precedes the given name, except for those Japanese authors whose works are mainly or exclusively published in English. In the 'Works cited' section at the end of each chapter, the names of Japanese authors writing in English are treated in the same way as Western names, whereby a comma is used to separate the family name from the given name. A comma is not used to separate the first and last name of Japanese authors writing in Japanese, however, as the word order in such titles already reflects the correct notation of a Japanese name. Sometimes the suffix '-san' (meaning Mr/Mrs) is attached to personal names as an expression of respect, for instance Nagatanigawa-san.

Currency amounts, when given in a currency other than the euro, have been converted into euros using the [fxtop.com](http://fxtop.com) currency converter tool, which takes account of the historical values of various currencies (<http://fxtop.com/en/currency-converter-past.php>). Please note that before 31 December 1998 the euro exchange rates are theoretical ones. Where a certain month is specified with regard to a currency amount, calculations are based on the historical conversion rate on the 15th of that month; if only a year is specified, calculations are based on the historical conversion rate in the middle of that year (1 July). All converted amounts are approximate and for illustrative purposes only.

