Publisher's Profile

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HISTORY AND DESCRIPTION OF KLUWER ACADEMIC PUBLISHERS:

Kluwer Academic Publishers is an international division (sector) of Wolters Kluwer, a major multinational corporation and one of the largest Dutch publishing concerns. This division is comprised of three separate publishers—Kluwer Academic Publishers, Dordrecht (the Netherlands), Kluwer Academic Publishers, Boston (USA), and Graham & Trotman, London (UK)—all of which produce high-quality, English language books, journals, and looseleaf publications for scholarly scientific, technical, medical, and professional markets around the globe. The company’s varied publishing program includes titles in nearly all areas of science and technology, law, medicine, business and economics, as well as the humanities and social sciences.

Because our titles are used and [we hope] valued by scholars, researchers, scientists, and professionals, libraries are a major and particularly important market for our publications. Wherever possible, therefore, whether working cooperatively with library vendors, producing our titles on acid-free paper, printing bar code labels on our journal covers in order to ease library check-in and reduce serials claims, or simply attending library conferences, we make it a point to know and understand the needs and concerns of our library customers.

The history of the company dates back to 19th century continental Europe, where the Dutch bookseller A. E. Kluwer founded his own publishing house in 1889. The company began with the publication of educational books and journals, soon expanding to include the scientific areas. Over the next century, the company gradually transformed into the Kluwer group through the acquisition of several Dutch publishing houses and printing businesses. The purchase (1970) of Martinus-Nijhoff Publishers, one of Europe’s leading academic publishers since its foundation in the mid-19th century, the addition (1972) of Dr. W. Junk Publishers, a company noted for its titles in the biological sciences, followed by the acquisition (1977) of D. Reidel Publishing Company, a leading international publisher in astronomy, physical science, mathematics, and especially philosophy, were among the Kluwer acquisitions which eventually led to the formation of Kluwer Academic Publishers in 1978.

During the ‘80s, Kluwer Academic expanded overseas, acquiring the British medical publisher, MTP Press Ltd, and Graham & Trotman, a London-based publisher of business and law materials for the corporate and professional markets. At the same time, the American sales/distribution office in Boston was expanded into a publishing house which is now known as Kluwer Academic Publishers/Boston, publishing both books and journals very actively in computer science, engineering, medicine, business, and economics.