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# FOUNDATIONS OF INVENTORY MANAGEMENT

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During the making of this book I have often reflected on my good fortune—so many fine people helped me, directly or indirectly. Here I can express only a small fraction of my gratitude to them.

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This book grew out of lecture notes and assignments for courses I have given at Columbia and Duke over the last 18 years. It represents my view of the key concepts of inventory management—how they really work and why they really matter. Chapter 1 sets forth the goals of the book more fully.

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**Paul H. Zipkin**  
**Durham**  
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