



Working Knowledge (Paperback)

By Chancellor s Professor of Law Catherine L Fisk

The University of North Carolina Press, United States, 2014.

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*****.Skilled workers of the early nineteenth century enjoyed a

degree of professional independence because workplace

knowledge and technical skill were their property, or at least

their attribute. In most sectors of today s economy, however, it is

a foundational and widely accepted truth that businesses retain

legal ownership of employee-generated intellectual property. In

Working Knowledge, Catherine Fisk chronicles the legal and

social transformations that led to the transfer of ownership of

employee innovation from labor to management. This deeply

contested development was won at the expense of workers

entrepreneurial independence and ultimately, Fisk argues,

economic democracy.By reviewing judicial decisions and legal

scholarship on all aspects of employee-generated intellectual

property and combing the archives of major nineteenth-century

intellectual property-producing companies--including DuPont,

Rand McNally, and the American Tobacco Company--Fisk makes

a highly technical area of law accessible to general readers

while also addressing scholarly deficiencies in the histories of

labor, intellectual property, and the business of technology.



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