I express my sincere thanks and deep sense of gratitude to my guide, Dr. M.L. Jeswani for his able guidance, valuable suggestions and constant encouragement throughout the course of this research work. I am indeed, greatly indebted to him.

Dr. R.R. Lakhe is another pillar of strength to me who showered his advice whenever it was needed. I owe the successful completion of work to him.

I am grateful to Dr. M.K. Kowar, Principal, BIT for permitting me to work as a research student and extending all help. Dr. A. Arora, HOD-Mechanical Engineering at BIT has been specially kind to me for which I express my sincere thanks.

This work, essentially exploratory in nature, needed collection of monumental data from innumerable resources. The responding industries and officers and staff working there, along with several of my friends and acquaintances have made this difficult task possible for which I shall ever remain grateful to them. In this context, I express my deep sense of gratitude to Mr. Abhijit Bhattacharya, Dr.Rakesh Shrivastava and Mr. C. Rao

For my case study, “R.P. Khedkar, Calibration and Testing center, Nagpur” proved an ideal place and it was indeed, a wonderful experience. I put on record my sincere appreciation to Mr. R.P. Khedkar and each and everyone at Khedkar Lab for enrichment, exposure and wholehearted co-operation.

Lastly, I wish to thank my departmental and college colleagues, PG students and all others who have directly or indirectly extended support to this research work.

Sapan Kumar Ganguly  
Raipur, 2006