The new Convention, known as the Rotterdam Rules and open for signature in September 2009, represents a radical attempt to establish a single, uniform, legal regime for the carriage of goods by sea. THIS BOOK has been compiled specially in readiness for the signing and as an essential aid to all those concerned to absorb the complexities of the new Convention. The response of the international community to the Rotterdam Rules will depend upon a full understanding of the Convention and this expert analysis provides a comprehensive and perceptive commentary of the principal provisions, implications and themes, with detailed comparisons to the Hague-Visby Rules and multimodal conventions.

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Professor of Maritime Law and Member of the Institute of Maritime Law, University of Southampton

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**Professor William Tetley**
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The Convention has taken much from the Hague, Hague-Visby and Hamburg Rules, however, in its reach, scale, detail and ambition it extends well beyond the boundaries of the preceding conventions, since it applies to:

- port to port contracts,
- multimodal contracts that incorporate a sea leg, and
- the increased use of electronic transport records.

It is more in the nature of an international maritime and commercial code and the intention is that its detailed 96 Articles will replace the existing conventions in what is a dramatic development in maritime and transport law.
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