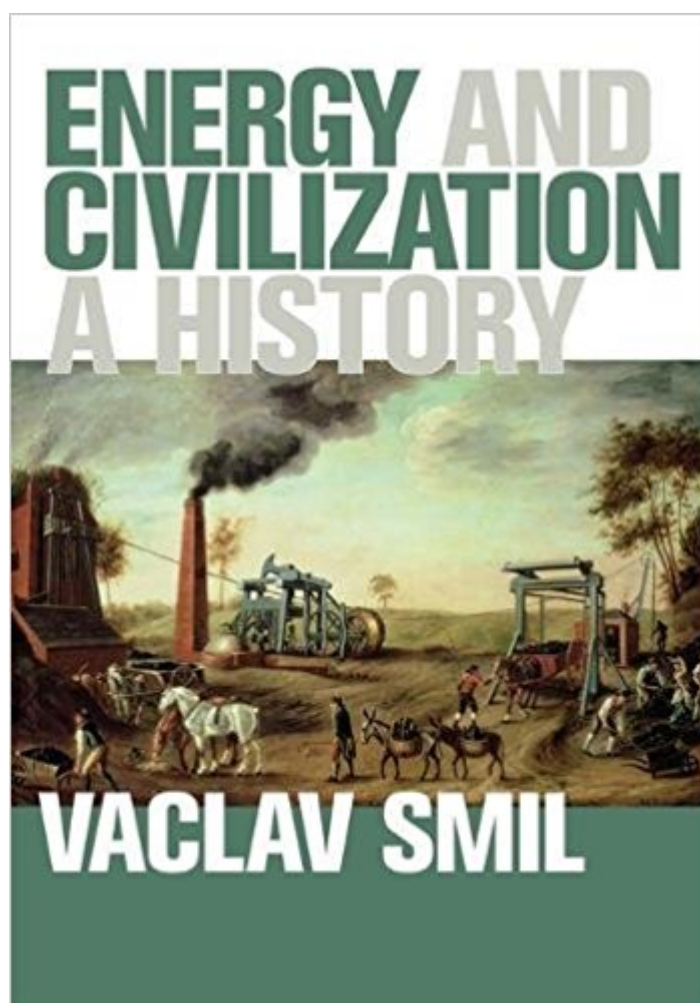


The book was found

Energy And Civilization: A History (MIT Press)



Synopsis

Energy is the only universal currency; it is necessary for getting anything done. The conversion of energy on Earth ranges from terra-forming forces of plate tectonics to cumulative erosive effects of raindrops. Life on Earth depends on the photosynthetic conversion of solar energy into plant biomass. Humans have come to rely on many more energy flows -- ranging from fossil fuels to photovoltaic generation of electricity -- for their civilized existence. In this monumental history, Vaclav Smil provides a comprehensive account of how energy has shaped society, from pre-agricultural foraging societies through today's fossil fuel--driven civilization. Humans are the only species that can systematically harness energies outside their bodies, using the power of their intellect and an enormous variety of artifacts -- from the simplest tools to internal combustion engines and nuclear reactors. The epochal transition to fossil fuels affected everything: agriculture, industry, transportation, weapons, communication, economics, urbanization, quality of life, politics, and the environment. Smil describes humanity's energy eras in panoramic and interdisciplinary fashion, offering readers a magisterial overview. This book is an extensively updated and expanded version of Smil's *Energy in World History* (1994). Smil has incorporated an enormous amount of new material, reflecting the dramatic developments in energy studies over the last two decades and his own research over that time.

Book Information

Series: MIT Press

Hardcover: 568 pages

Publisher: The MIT Press (May 12, 2017)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0262035774

ISBN-13: 978-0262035774

Product Dimensions: 6 x 1.3 x 9 inches

Shipping Weight: 1.9 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 5.0 out of 5 stars 2 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #28,397 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #19 in [Books > Engineering & Transportation > Engineering > Energy Production & Extraction](#) #74 in [Books > Science & Math > Nature & Ecology > Conservation](#) #322 in [Books > Science & Math > Physics](#)

Customer Reviews

Everything we humans have ever done has depended on our ability to obtain energy, and Vaclav

Smil is the world's leading historian of this process. Energy and Civilization is sure to be the early twenty-first century's most important guide to this all-important subject. (Ian Morris, Jean and Rebecca Willard Professor of Classics, Stanford University; author of Why the West Rules -- For Now) Smil's masterful overview explains energy's centrality in creating and sustaining civilization. Grounded in science, sensitive to cultural differences, and richly detailed, it is the definitive work on this vital subject. (David E. Nye, author of Electrifying America and When the Lights Went Out)

Vaclav Smil is Distinguished Professor Emeritus at the University of Manitoba. He is the author of forty books, including Power Density: A Key to Understanding Energy Sources and Uses and Made in the USA: The Rise and Retreat of American Manufacturing, both published by the MIT Press. In 2010 he was named by Foreign Policy as one of the Top 100 Global Thinkers. In 2013 Bill Gates wrote on his website that "there is no author whose books I look forward to more than Vaclav Smil."

Truly fascinating. It is hard to describe how impressive this masterful history is. A summation of a world of knowledge in a thorough, understandable, and context-rich book. Required reading for anyone interested in energy, sustainability, and the future of humanity.

As always Vaclav Smil does an excellent job in this history.

[Download to continue reading...](#)

Energy and Civilization: A History (MIT Press) The Age of Napoleon: A History of European Civilization from 1789 to 1815 (Story of Civilization, Book 11) (Story of Civilization (Audio)) Reiki: The Healing Energy of Reiki - Beginner's Guide for Reiki Energy and Spiritual Healing: Reiki: Easy and Simple Energy Healing Techniques Using the ... Energy Healing for Beginners Book 1) Blowout in the Gulf: The BP Oil Spill Disaster and the Future of Energy in America (MIT Press) Power Density: A Key to Understanding Energy Sources and Uses (MIT Press) The Future Is Not What It Used to Be: Climate Change and Energy Scarcity (MIT Press) Sustainable Energy: Choosing Among Options (MIT Press) Solar Revolution: The Economic Transformation of the Global Energy Industry (MIT Press) Mayan Civilization: Explore the History and Mystery of the Ancient Mayan Ruins, Religion, Calendar, and More (Mayan Ruins, Mayan Religion, Ancient Civilization, Mayan Calendar) The Age of Reason Begins: A History of European Civilization in the Period of Shakespeare, Bacon, Montaigne, Rembrandt, Galileo, and Descartes: 1558 - ... Book 7) (Story of Civilization (Audio)) World History, Ancient History, Asian History, United States History, European History, Russian History, Indian History, African History. (world history) Energy

Harvesting: Solar, Wind, and Ocean Energy Conversion Systems (Energy, Power Electronics, and Machines) Renewable Energy Made Easy: Free Energy from Solar, Wind, Hydropower, and Other Alternative Energy Sources Crystals: The Ultimate Guide To: Energy Fields, Auras, Chakras and Emotional Healing (Aura, Healing Stones, Crystal Energy, Crystal Healing, Energy Fields, Emotional Healing, Gemstone) Istanbul and the Civilization of the Ottoman Empire (Centers of Civilization (Paperback)) Lerne Französisch mit Mimi: Mimi und die Ausstellung. Ein Bilderbuch auf Französisch/Deutsch mit Vokabeln (Mimi de-fr 2) (German Edition) Lies Mit Mir! Intermediate Reader 2 (Komm Mit) Komm mit!: Beginner Reader Lies mit mir Level 1 Komm mit!: Advanced Reader Lies mit mir Level 3 Komm mit! German: PRAC & ACT BK KOMM MIT! HOLT GERMAN 2 95 Level 2

[Contact Us](#)

[DMCA](#)

[Privacy](#)

[FAQ & Help](#)