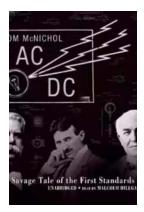
The Savage Tale Of The First Standards War: A Story of Innovation, Rivalry, and Technological Progress



Every great war leaves its mark on history, but not all wars involve physical battles on the battlefield. In the world of technology, one of the most significant conflicts took shape in the form of the first standards war.

This tale begins in the late 1800s, a period marked by rapid advancements in communication and transportation. As new inventions emerged, the need for

industry-wide standards became apparent. Companies and inventors were vying for dominance, eager to establish their own standards and secure a place in technological history.



AC/DC: The Savage Tale of the First Standards

War by Tom McNichol(1st Edition, Kindle Edition)

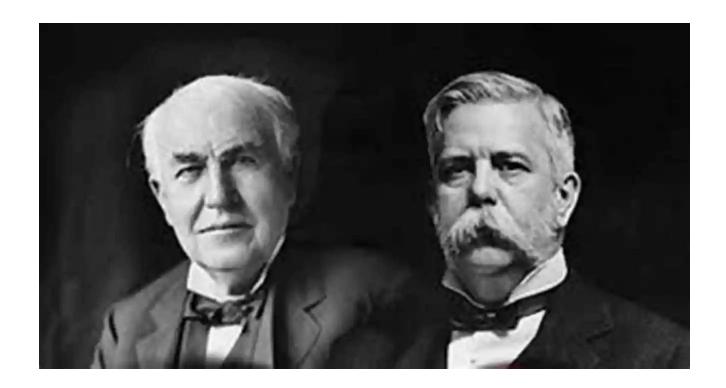
★ ★ ★ ★ ★ 4.3 out of 5 Language : English File size : 650 KB : Enabled Text-to-Speech Screen Reader : Supported Enhanced typesetting: Enabled Word Wise : Enabled Print length : 210 pages Lending : Enabled X-Ray for textbooks : Enabled



The Rise of the First Standards War

At the epicenter of this battle for supremacy was the electric power industry. As the world transitioned from gas lighting to electric lighting, the question of which standard to adopt as the basis for electrical systems became fiercely contested.

Two brilliant minds emerged as the key players in this war: Thomas Edison and George Westinghouse. Edison championed direct current (DC), a system he had patented and built his reputation upon. Westinghouse, on the other hand, was a proponent of alternating current (AC), a superior technology that could transmit electricity over longer distances.



The Battle Begins

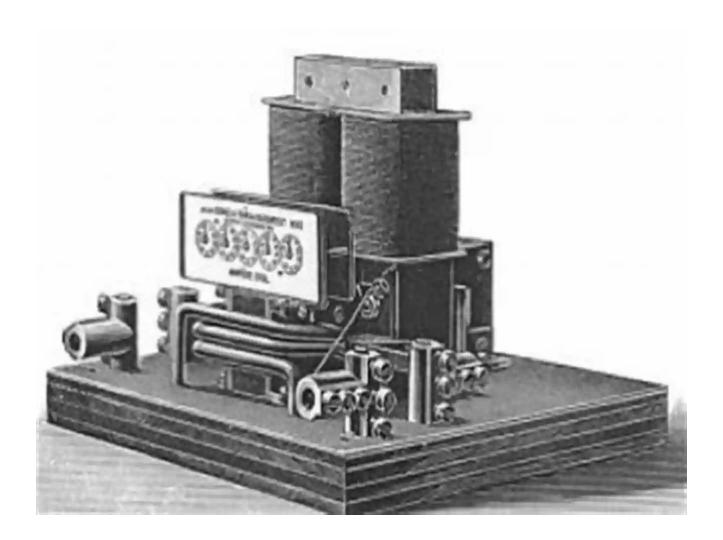
In their pursuit of dominance, Edison and Westinghouse launched extensive marketing campaigns and engaged in public debates to sway public opinion in their favor. The stakes were high, not only in terms of financial gains but also in shaping the course of technology for generations to come.

Both parties sought to demonstrate the efficiency and safety of their respective systems. Edison even went to extreme lengths, organizing public demonstrations where animals were killed using alternating current to showcase its dangers. This event, known as the "War of the Currents," intensified the rivalry between the two sides.

Scientific and Public Opinion Shifts

As the battle raged on, scientific and public opinion began to shift in favor of alternating current. Innovations in AC technology, like the invention of the transformer by Hungarian engineer Ottó Bláthy, propelled its usage and

efficiency. Additionally, the ability of AC to power remote locations and transmit electricity over long distances gave it a clear advantage over DC.



War's End and the Legacy Left Behind

Ultimately, the war came to a somewhat unexpected . Westinghouse's AC system, with its undeniable advantages, prevailed and became the standard for electrical distribution. The adoption of AC had far-reaching consequences, shaping the future of power grids and opening doors to new technological applications.

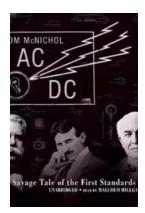
The legacy of the first standards war is profound. It highlights the importance of competition and innovation in driving progress. It also serves as a reminder of the

risks and rewards involved in taking a stand for one's vision, even in the face of intense opposition.

The first standards war was a fierce battle between two visionary minds seeking dominance in the rapidly evolving technological landscape. Edison's direct current and Westinghouse's alternating current fought for supremacy, with the latter eventually triumphing.

This historic conflict not only shaped the world of electricity but also laid the groundwork for future standards wars that would arise in various industries. It serves as a testament to the power of innovation, competition, and the impact these battles have on the progress of human civilization.

As we navigate the ever-changing technological landscape of today, we should recall this savage tale of the first standards war. It reminds us to embrace ingenuity, challenge the status quo, and continue pushing the boundaries of what is possible.



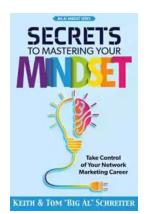
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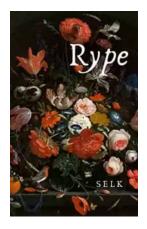


AC/DC tells the little-known story of how Thomas Edison wrongly bet in the fierce war between supporters of alternating current and direct current. The savagery of this electrical battle can hardly be imagined today. The showdown between AC and DC began as a rather straightforward conflict between technical standards, a battle of competing methods to deliver essentially the same product, electricity. But the skirmish soon metastasized into something bigger and darker. In the AC/DC battle, the worst aspects of human nature somehow got caught up in the wires; a silent, deadly flow of arrogance, vanity, and cruelty. Following the path of least resistance, the war of currents soon settled around that most primal of human emotions: fear. AC/DC serves as an object lesson in bad business strategy and poor decision making. Edison's inability to see his mistake was a key factor in his loss of control over the ?operating system? for his future inventions?not to mention the company he founded, General Electric.



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