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## Carbon Copy. Excerpts from a Manual Before the War

It is essential that you read the instruction manual before installation and initial operation.

This will protect you and keep you from harm.

This replicant© has to be maintained and operated according to the instruction manual.

This replicant© offers you top quality and state-of-the-art technology.

This replicant© complies with the mandatory safety regulations.

This replicant© operates accurately and is low- maintenance.

However, inappropriate usage can lead to damage to persons and material.

Therefore, it is essential that you read the instruction manual before operating the replicant©.

It provides you with important advice regarding safety, operation and maintenance of the replicant©.

This replicant© is only approved for the described uses according to its model specifications.

This replicant© is ready for use only 30 seconds after switching it on.

A flashing ready light indicates that the replicant© is switched on.

In that case, this replicant© is under constant pressure, and therefore ready for use at all times.

Always position this replicant© so as not to impede work area and operability.

Never let children play with the replicant©.

This replicant© has a warranty of four years as of initial operation.

If your replicant© should show a defect within the warranty period, please contact our customer service.

If your replicant© should develop a personality within the warranty period, inform the police immediately.

Keep this instruction manual in a safe place so that you always have access to it in case of need.

## NOTA

\* Thomas Ballhausen is an Austrian writer, philosopher and university lecturer based in Salzburg and Vienna. His current research interests include Comparative Media Studies, (Post-)Digitality, Sequential Storytelling, and Language-Based Artistic Research. In addition to his work in European research contexts, Ballhausen has repeatedly and successfully engaged in interdisciplinary collaborations in fields as diverse as film, music, and new media art. Among his most recent publications is the monograph *Fiction Fiction. Language Arts and the Practice of Spatial Storytelling* (together with E. Peytchinska; De Gruyter 2023).