

**DOCKETALARM**

# Dictionary of Computing

▼ The most comprehensive computing dictionary ever published

▼ More than 18,000 entries

# IBM DICTIONARY OF COMPUTING

*Compiled and edited by*  
**GEORGE McDANIEL**

**McGRAW-HILL, INC.**  
New York San Francisco Washington, D.C. Auckland Bogotá  
Caracas Lisbon London Madrid Mexico City Milan  
Montreal New Delhi San Juan Singapore  
Sydney Tokyo Toronto

**Limitation of Liability**

While the Editor and Publisher of this book have made reasonable efforts to ensure the accuracy and timeliness of the information contained herein, neither the Editor nor the Publisher shall have any liability with respect to loss or damage caused or alleged to be caused by reliance on any information contained herein.

Copyright © 1994 by International Business Machines Corporation. All rights reserved. Printed in the United States of America. Except as permitted under the United States Copyright Act of 1976, no part of this publication may be reproduced or distributed in any form or by any means, or stored in a data base or retrieval system, without the prior written permission of the publisher.

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 0 DOC/DOC 9 9 8 7 6 5 4 3

ISBN 0-07-031488-8 (HC)  
ISBN 0-07-031489-6 (PBK)

*The sponsoring editor for this book was Daniel A. Gonneau and the production supervisor was Thomas G. Kowalczyk.*

*Printed and bound by R. R. Donnelley & Sons Company.*

**Tenth Edition (August 1993)**

This is a major revision of the *IBM Dictionary of Computing*, SC20-1699-8, which is made obsolete by this edition. Changes are made periodically to the information provided herein.

It is possible that this material may contain reference to, or information about, IBM products (machines and programs), programming, or services that are not announced in your country. Such references or information must not be construed to mean that IBM intends to announce such IBM products, programming, or services in your country. Comments may be addressed to IBM Corporation, Department E37/656, P. O. Box 12195, Research Triangle Park, NC 27709.

**International Edition**

Copyright © 1994 by International Business Machines Corporation. Exclusive rights by McGraw-Hill, Inc. for manufacture and export. This book cannot be re-exported from the country to which it is consigned by McGraw-Hill. The International Edition is not available in North America.

When ordering this title, use ISBN 0-07-113383-6.

This book is printed on acid-free paper.

matching a protection key associated with a store reference to main storage with a storage key associated with each block of main storage. See also fetch protection.

**store support procedure** A procedure that assists personnel in administrative, operational, and managerial operations apart from customer checkout.

**store through cache** In a processing unit, a store (write) operation, in which data are immediately put into both cache and main storage locations.

**storing** (1) The action of placing data into a storage device. (2) To place data into a storage device. (3) To retain data in a storage device. (T)

**storyboard** In multimedia applications, a visual representation of the script, showing a picture of each scene and describing its corresponding audio. Synonymous with slide show presentation.

**storyboarding** In multimedia applications, producing a sequence of still images, such as titles, graphics, and images, to work out the visual details of a script.

**STP** Stop character.

**STR** Synchronous transmitter receiver.

**straight line coding** (1) A set of instructions without loops. (I) (A) (2) Programming technique in which loops are avoided by unwinding. (I) (A)

**stratified language** (1) A language that cannot be used as its own metalanguage; for example, FORTRAN. (I) (A) (2) Contrast with unstratified language.

**streak** A narrow area on a printed sheet that is either darker or lighter than desired. Contrast with gray bar, spot.

**stream** (1) To send data from one device to another. (2) See data stream.

**stream data transmission** In PL/I, the transmission of data in which the organization of the data into records is ignored and the data is treated as though it were a continuous stream of individual data values in character form. Contrast with record data transmission.

**stream editor** In text processing, a text editor that treats the entire text as a single string, even when the string is broken into lines for viewing purposes. (T) (A)

**streamer** Synonym for streaming tape drive.

**stream file** In BASIC, a file on disk in which data is read and written in consecutive fields without record boundaries. Contrast with record file.

**streaming** (1) A condition in which a device remains in a transmit state for an abnormal length of time. (2) A method of writing and reading data on magnetic tape as continuous fields without record boundaries.

**streaming tape drive** A magnetic tape unit especially designed to make a nonstop dump or restore of magnetic disks without stopping at interblock gaps. Synonymous with streamer. (T) Contrast with start-stop tape drive.

**streaming tape recording** A method of recording on magnetic tape that maintains continuous tape motion without the requirement to start and stop within the interrecord gap. (A)

**stream mode** A method of sending and receiving data in which records are defined as a stream of data without boundaries.

**strength member** In an optical cable, material that can be located either centrally or peripherally and that functions as a strain relief.

**stress patterns** In printing, severe print-quality standard patterns used to test print quality.

**strict type checking** In C language, checking data types for compliance with the rules of C language more strictly than C compiler checking.

**strike** In videotaping, to clear away, remove, or dismantle anything on the set.

**strikeover** A character entered in a space currently occupied by another character.

**string** (1) A sequence of elements of the same nature, such as characters considered as a whole. (T) (2) In programming languages, the form of data used for storing and manipulating text. (3) In XL Pascal, an object of the predefined type STRING. (4) In the AS/400 system, a group of auxiliary storage devices connected in a series on the system. The order and location in which each device is connected to the system determines the physical address of the device. (5) In PL/I, a sequence of characters or bits that is treated as a single data item. (6) In SQL, a character string. (7) See alphabetic string, binary element string, bit string, character string, compound string, conformant string, literal string, mixed string, null string, pattern string, symbol string, text string, unit string.

**string constant** In Pascal, a string whose value is fixed by the compiler.