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upload² *vb.* To transfer a copy of a file from a local computer to a remote computer. *Compare* download.

UPnP *n.* Acronym for **Universal Plug and Play**. A Microsoft initiative which prompted the creation of the UPnP Forum for interconnecting computers, appliances, networks, and services. UPnP extends conventional Plug and Play to include devices connected to networks. It allows peripheral devices to discover and connect to other devices and to enumerate the characteristics of those devices. UPnP is intended to be an element of home networking, in which PCs, appliances, and the services they provide are linked together.

UPnP Device Architecture *n.* A specification developed by the Universal Plug and Play (UPnP) Forum that defines the structure of UPnP networking. The UPnP Device Architecture, formerly known as the DCP Framework, provides information about discovery, description, control, eventing, and presentation in a UPnP network. *See also* UPnP networking.

UPnP Forum *n.* A consortium of companies and individuals that oversees Universal Plug and Play (UPnP) specifications, protocols, logos, sample implementations, test suites, white papers, and other UPnP-related efforts. *See also* UPnP, UPnP Device Architecture, UPnP networking.

UPnP networking *n.* The peer-to-peer networking of intelligent machines, appliances, wireless devices, computers, and other devices according to the Universal Plug and Play (UPnP) Device Architecture. UPnP networking uses control points, devices, services, and protocols including GENA, SOAP, SSDP, standard TCP/IP, and other Internet protocols. *See also* UPnP Device Architecture.

uppercase *adj.* Of, pertaining to, or characterized by capital letters. *Compare* lowercase.

upper memory area *n.* *See* UMA (definition 1).

upper memory block *n.* *See* UMB.

UPS *n.* Acronym for **uninterruptible power supply**. A device, connected between a computer (or other electronic equipment) and a power source (usually an outlet receptacle), that ensures that electrical flow to the computer is not interrupted because of a blackout and, in most cases, protects the computer against potentially damaging events, such as power surges and brownouts. All UPS units are equipped with a battery and a loss-of-power sensor; if the sensor detects a loss of power, it switches over to the battery so that the user has time to save his or her work and shut off the computer. *See also* blackout, brownout.

upstream¹ *n.* The direction in which information is delivered from a client to a (Web) server. *Compare* downstream¹.

upstream² *adj.* **1.** The location of a server in relation to another server. *Compare* downstream² (definition 1). **2.** The direction in which data moves *from* an individual computer *to* the remote network. With certain communications technologies, such as ADSL, cable modems, and high-speed 56-Kbps modems, data flows upstream more slowly than downstream. For example, a 56-Kbps modem can deliver data at a 56-Kbps maximum only downstream; upstream, it delivers data at either 28.8 or 33.6 Kbps. *Compare* downstream² (definition 2).

uptime *n.* The amount or percentage of time a computer system or associated hardware is functioning and available for use. *Compare* downtime.

upward-compatible *adj.* Of, pertaining to, or characteristic of a computer product, especially software, designed to perform adequately with other products that are expected to become widely used in the foreseeable future. The use of standards and conventions makes upward compatibility easier to achieve.

urban legend *n.* A widely distributed story that remains in circulation in spite of the fact that it is not true. Many urban legends have been floating around the Internet and other online services for years, including the request for cards for the sick boy in England (he's long since recovered and grown up), the cookie or cake recipe that cost \$250 (it's a myth), and the Good Times or Penpal Greetings virus, which will infect your computer when you read an e-mail message (it does not exist). *See also* Good Times virus.

URC *n.* *See* Uniform Resource Citation.

URI *n.* *See* Uniform Resource Identifier.

URL *n.* Acronym for **Uniform Resource Locator**. An address for a resource on the Internet. URLs are used by Web browsers to locate Internet resources. A URL specifies the protocol to be used in accessing the resource (such as http: for a World Wide Web page or ftp: for an FTP site), the name of the server on which the resource resides (such as //www.whitehouse.gov), and, optionally, the path to a resource (such as an HTML document or a file on that server). *See also* FTP¹ (definition 1), HTML, HTTP, path (definition 1), server (definition 2), virtual path (definition 1), Web browser.

URN *n.* *See* Uniform Resource Name.