DICTIONARY OF COMPUTER AND INTERNET TERMS

Dictionary of Computer and Internet Terms

Tenth Edition

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downstream (describing data transmission) in a direction from the server to the client, o
peripheral. *Compare* DOWNLOAD. *Contrast* UPSTREAM.

downward compatibility the ability to work with older equipment and/or software that
program or accessory was designed. *Contrast* UPWARD COMPATIBILITY.

dpi (**d**ots **p**er **i**nch) the number of pixels or printer dots per linear inch. The first generatic
with a resolution of 300 dots per inch. 600- and 1200-dpi laser printers are now available.
details.

draft quality a printout in low resolution, unsuitable for CAMERA-READY COPY, but ad
checking the placement and alignment of graphics.

drag to move an object by using a mouse. To do this, move the mouse pointer to the objec
button (usually the leftmost button if there is more than one), and move the mouse. The se
mouse pointer, as if the pointer were *dragging* the object. When you are finished, drop the

FIGURE 85. Drag

drag and drop

1. the ability to move text or graphics by dragging it to a new location with the mouse
2. a method of opening an application program. Simply pick up a file icon and drag it
application program that can open the file.

drain one of the three regions in a field-effect transistor.

DRAM (**D**ynamic **R**andom-**A**ccess **M**emory, pronounced "D-ram") a computer memory t
sent to it periodically. Almost all computers use DRAM chips for memory. *See* EDO; MEM
Contrast SRAM.

draw program a graphics program that operates in terms of lines and shapes. Unlike a p
treats the picture as a collection of objects, each of which will be printed as sharply as the p
sharpness of the picture is not limited by the resolution of the screen. Also, individual circl
shapes can be moved around without affecting other objects they overlap. However, individ
Draw programs are sometimes called *vector graphics* or *object-oriented graphics* progran

    Draw programs are preferred for drawing diagrams, while paint programs are superior f
photographs. Some popular draw programs include Adobe Illustrator, CorelDraw, and Ma

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server a computer that provides services to another computer (called the *client*). On mult
provides services to another process is sometimes called a server. For specific examples, *se*
X SERVER.

server-side application a computer program that runs on a network server rather than
Java servlets are server-side applications; when you view a web page that contains a servle
server rather than on your PC. *Contrast* CLIENT-SIDE APPLICATION.

service in Windows, a program that runs continuously, unseen by the user, such as a Wel
a more mundane function such as updating the system clock; the equivalent of a UNIX DA

service bureau a business that provides services to computer users, such as high-quality
conversions, or the like.

service pack a set of updates to a software package, delivered together or even delivered
    Usage note: The phrase *Windows XP Service Pack 2* can mean either "Service Pack 2 fo
with Service Pack 2 included."

service provider a company that provides computer or networking services to customer:
INTERNET.

servlet a Java program that runs on a web server. By contrast, an applet is a Java progran
client.

session

> **1.** a period of time during which a person is using a particular computer service, such
> Internet.
> **2.** an occasion upon which data is written to a recordable CD-ROM. Multisession CD
> them more than once.

set

> **1.** the input of a flip-flop that places it into state 1, as opposed to the *reset* input. *See*
> **2.** the command in Windows and UNIX, that stores information in the operating sys
> ENVIRONMENT).
> **3.** in mathematics, a collection of objects of any kind. For example, {2, 4, -425} is a s
> {4, 5}} is a set of sets. *See* INTERSECTION; SET DIFFERENCE; UNION.
> **4.** a data type in Pascal that consists of a group of values of a specified type.

set difference the set of elements that belong to one set and not to another. For example
and {*b, c*} is {*a*}.

SETI@home a distributed computer system where users sign up to have their computers
from radio telescopes, in a search for extra-terrestrial intelligence (SETI). See *setiathome.*

seven layers *see* DATA COMMUNICATION.

SGML (**S**tandard **G**eneralized **M**arkup **L**anguage) a standard set of codes for marking bol
files, which became the basis for HTML. *See* HTML; XML.

shadow

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upstream (describing data transmission) in a direction from the client to the server, or fr computer. *Compare* UPLOAD. *Contrast* DOWNSTREAM.

upward compatibility the situation in which a computer program or accessory works n it was designed but also on newer models. For instance, programs written for the IBM PC i faster) on present-day Pentium machines. Thus we say that the Pentium is upward compat *Contrast* DOWNWARD COMPATIBILITY.

urban legend a story that is told by highly educated people as if it were true, but cannot happened to a "friend of a friend" (i.e., a person who is almost, but not quite, identifiable), but highly amusing misadventure. The term was coined by Jan Harold Brunvand, who has subject. The Internet is one of many means by which urban legends circulate. *See also* HO

URL (**U**niform **R**esource **L**ocator, **U**niversal **R**esource **L**ocator) a way of specifying the lo information on the Internet, in the form

> *protocol://machine:port number/filename*

Often the port number and/or the filename is unnecessary. For example,

```
http://csam.uga.edu:80
```

means connect to port 80 of csam.uga.edu using Hypertext Transfer Protocol, and ftp://ai.uga.edu/pub/natural.language/Contents means to download a particular fil Transfer Protocol. A user name and password can be included thus:

```
ftp://username:password@www.somewhere.com/directoryname/filename
```

This is a handy way to access your web site on its server from your browser. *See also*
    The URL for a World Wide Web site often includes www, as in http://www.spu.ed include gopher and telnet. *See* ABSOLUTE URL; BROWSER; GOPHER; HTML; HT PROTOCOL; RELATIVE URL; TELNET; TILDE; TLD; WORLD WIDE WEB.

.us suffix indicating that an e-mail or web address is registered in the United States. Altho organizations, .us addresses are used mostly by local governments. *See* TLD.

U.S. legal the size of paper used for legal documents in the United States, 8½ × 14 inches U.S. LETTER. *See also* PAPER SIZES; illustration at Figure 151 on page 281.

U.S. letter the size of paper used for business letters in the United States, 8½ × 11 inches nearest equivalent. *Contrast* EXECUTIVE SIZE; U.S. LEGAL. *See also* PAPER SIZES; illus

USB (**U**niversal **S**erial **B**us) a standard way of connecting peripherals to computers, desig SCSI, and other kinds of ports. USB 1.0 provides a data rate of 12 million bits per second (Firewire (IEEE 1394), but cheaper to implement. USB 2.0 ("Hi-Speed USB") achieves 480 with the previous version. The maximum cable length is 5 meters (16 feet). Any USB port c