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application-centric \a`plə-kā`shən-sen´trik\ adj. Of, pertaining to, or characteristic of an operating system in which a user invokes an application to open or create documents (such as word processing files or spreadsheets). Command-line interfaces and some graphical user interfaces such as the Windows 3.x Program Manager are application-centric. Compare document-centric.

**application developer** \a-plə-kā`shən də-vel´ə-pər\ *n*. An individual who designs and analyzes the appearance and operation of an application program.

**application development environment** \a-pla-kā\shən də-vel'əp-mənt en-vī\rən-mənt, en-vī\rən-mənt\ n. An integrated suite of programs for use by software developers. Typical components of application development environments include a compiler, file browsing system, debugger, and text editor for use in creating programs.

**application development language** \a-pla-kā\shan da-vel\u00e3p-mant lang\u00eawa\u00e3\u00ean. A computer language designed for creating applications. The term is usually restricted to refer to languages with specific high-level constructs geared toward record design, form layout, database retrieval and update, and similar tasks. See also application, application generator, 4GL.

**application development system** \a-plə-kā`shən də-vel´əp-mənt sis`təm\ n. A programming environment designed for the development of an application, typically including a text editor, compiler, and linker, and often including a library of common software routines for use in the developed program.

**application file** \a`plə-kā´shən fīl`\ n. See program file.

**application gateway** \a-plə-kā´shən gāt`wā\ *n*. Software running`on a machine that is intended to maintain security on a secluded network yet allow certain traffic to go between the private network and the outside world. *See also* firewall.

**application generator** \a-pla-kā\shən jen'ər-ā-tər\ n. Software for generating source or machine code for running an application based on a description of the desired functionality. Limited in scope, application generators are included with some database programs and use built-in instruc-

tion sets to generate program code. See also application.

**application heap** \a`plə-kā´shən hēp`\ n. A block of RAM used by an application to store its code, resources, records, document data, and other information. *See also* heap (definition 1), RAM.

**application layer** \a`plə-kā´shən lâr`, la`yər\ n. The highest layer of standards in the Open Systems Interconnection (OSI) model. The application layer contains signals that perform useful work for the user, such as file transfer or remote access to a computer, as opposed to lower levels, which control the exchange of data between transmitter and receiver. See also ISO/OSI model.

application processor \a`plə-kā´shən pros`e-sər\
n. A processor dedicated to a single application.
application program \a`plə-kā´shən prō`gram\
n. See application.

application programming interface \a-pla-k\a\in\shan pro\interface \a-pla-k\a\in\shan pro\interface \a-pla-k\a\in\shan pro\interface \a-pla-k\a\interfas\ n. A set of routines used by an application program to direct the performance of procedures by the computer's operating system. *Acronym:* API (A\interface)-

**application shortcut key** \a-plə-kā`shən shōrt'kut kē`\ n. A key or combination of keys that when pressed will quickly perform an action within an application that would normally require several user actions, such as menu selections. Also called keyboard shortcut.

**application software** \a-plə-kā`shən soft´-wâr\ *n. See* application.

**application-specific integrated circuit** \a-pla-k\bar{a}`shan-spa-sif`ik in`ta-gr\bar{a}-tad sər´k\tat\ n. See gate array.

**application suite** \a-pla-kā´shən swēt`\ *n. See* suite (definition 1).

**.aq**  $\dot A-Q \n$ . On the Internet, the major geographic domain specifying that an address is located in Antarctica.

.ar \dot`A-R´\ n. On the Internet, the major geographic domain specifying that an address is located in Argentina.

**arbitration** \arbiba-trā shan\ n. A set of rules for resolving competing demands for a machine resource by multiple users or processes. See also contention.

