DICTIONARY OF NETWORKING

THIRD EDITION

PETER DYSON

CLEAR DEFINITIONS FOR
THOUSANDS OF NETWORKING
TERMS, ACRONYMS, AND
ABBREVIATIONS

COVERS WINDOWS 2000,
NETWARE 5, UNIX, LINUX,
SOLARIS AND MORE

FOR NETWORK USERS,
NETWORK ADMINISTRATORS,
AND STUDENTS

CD CONTAINS A
FULLY SEARCHABLE
ELECTRONIC VERSION OF THE

INCLUDES COVERAGE OF

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of
Networking

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synchronous transmission   A transmission method that uses a clock signal to regulate data flow.

In synchronous transmissions, frames are separated by equal-sized time intervals. Timing must be controlled precisely on the sending and the receiving computers. Special characters are embedded in the data stream to begin synchronization and to maintain synchronization during the transmission, allowing both computers to check for and correct any variations in timing.

See also asynchronous transmission.

syntax   The formal rules of grammar as they apply to a specific programming language or operating system command; in particular, the exact sequence and spelling of command elements required for the command to be interpreted correctly.

syntax error   An error in the use of a programming language or operating system command syntax, such as misspelling a keyword or omitting a required space.

SyQuest Technology, Inc.   A leading manufacturer of removable storage media, particularly the SCSI-based removable hard disk available for the PC and the Macintosh.

For more information on SyQuest Technology, Inc., see www.syquest.com.

System IV   A version of Unix from AT&T that was never released outside the company, mostly to avoid confusion with the 4.*x*BSD series of products.

System V   The last version of Unix from AT&T, pronounced "System Five." The latest release is known as System V Release 4.2, often abbreviated SVR4 or SVR4.2.

System V Interface Definition   Abbreviated SVID. A set of documents released by AT&T that defined the Unix System V interfaces and operating system calls.

system administration   The day-to-day administrative and management tasks performed by the system administrator, including:

- Starting up and shutting down the system
- Setting the system time and date
- Assigning and changing passwords
- Adding and removing users and groups
- Installing, upgrading, and removing application packages and installing operating system upgrades
- Backing up the system, storing archives off location, and restoring backups as needed
- Installing and configuring new hardware such as printers, storage devices, and communications systems