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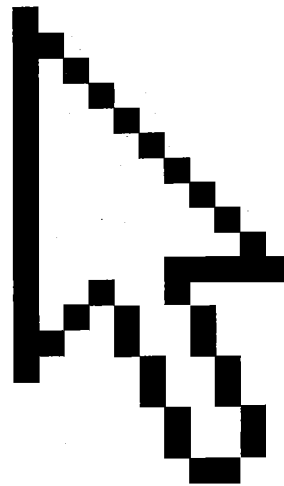


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H

homogeneous network *n.* A network on which all the hosts are similar and only one protocol is used.

HoneyNet Project *n.* A nonprofit security research group created to collect and analyze data on hacking tools and methods by maintaining a decoy network of computers that is potentially attractive to hackers. The HoneyNet Project sets up entire networks of computers in different combinations of operating systems and security to realistically simulate those used in businesses and organizations. Hackers are lured to the network where all inbound and outbound data is captured and contained to help researchers learn about hacker tactics and motives.

honeypot *n.* A security program designed to lure and distract a network attacker with decoy data. The honeypot appears to be a system that the intruder would like to crack but which, in reality, is safely separated from the actual network. This allows network administrators to observe attackers and study their activities without the intruders knowing they are being monitored. Honeypot programs get their name from the "like a bear to honey" metaphor.

honker *n.* A slang term for a hacker, the term originated in China. The Honker Union of China is an active group of Chinese hackers with nationalistic or hacktivist aims. The Honker Union of China has claimed patriotic motivation for defacing Japanese and U.S. Web sites, hacking U.S. networks, and releasing the Lion worm and other malicious programs. *See also* hacktivist, Lion worm.

hook *n.* A location in a routine or program in which the programmer can connect or insert other routines for the purpose of debugging or enhancing functionality.

hop *n.* In data communications, one segment of the path between routers on a geographically dispersed network. A hop is comparable to one "leg" of a journey that includes intervening stops between the starting point and the destination. The distance between each of those stops (routers) would be a communications hop.

horizontal blanking interval *n.* *See* blanking, horizontal retrace.

horizontal flyback *n.* *See* horizontal retrace.

horizontal market *n.* A broad category of business activity, such as accounting or inventory control, that carries across many types of business. *Compare* vertical market.

horizontal market software *n.* Application programs, such as word processors, that can be used in all types of business, as opposed to those geared for a certain industry.

horizontal retrace *n.* The movement of the electron beam in a raster-scan video display from the right end of one scan line to the left end (the beginning) of the next. During horizontal retrace, the electron beam is turned off, so the time required for the beam to move is called the horizontal blanking interval. *See also* blanking. *Compare* vertical retrace.

horizontal scrolling *n.* A feature of programs such as word processors and spreadsheets that enables the user to scroll left and right to display information beyond the horizontal limits of the screen (or window, in a graphical user interface).

horizontal synchronization *n.* On raster displays, the timing produced by a signal that controls the sweep of the display's electron beam as it moves from left to right and back again to form an image line by line. The horizontal synchronization signal is usually controlled by a circuit known as a phase-locked loop, which maintains a constant precise frequency so that a clear image is formed.

host¹ *n.* **1.** The main computer in a mainframe or mini-computer environment—that is, the computer to which terminals are connected. **2.** In PC-based networks, a computer that provides access to other computers. **3.** On the Internet or other large networks, a server computer that has access to other computers on the network. A host computer provides services, such as news, mail, or data, to computers that connect to it.

host² *vb.* To provide services to client computers that connect from remote locations—for example, to offer Internet access or to be the source for a news or mail service.

host adapter *n.* A device for connecting a peripheral to the main computer, typically in the form of an expansion card. *Also called:* controller, host bus adapter.

hosting *n.* The practice of providing computer and communication facilities to businesses or individuals, especially for use in creating Web and electronic commerce sites. A hosting service can provide high-speed access to the Internet, redundant power and data storage, and 24-hour maintenance at lower cost than implementing the same services independently. *See also* host², virtual hosting.

Host Integration Server *n.* A software application from Microsoft Corporation to allow businesses to integrate existing application, data, and network assets with new business applications and technologies. Host Integration Server preserves a company's existing legacy infrastructure and investments, while providing out-of-the-box

NIC handle *n.* See handle.

nickel cadmium battery *n.* A rechargeable battery that uses an alkaline electrolyte. Nickel cadmium batteries typically have a longer operating life and storage life than similar lead-acid batteries. *Also called:* NiCad battery. *Compare* lead ion battery, lithium ion battery, nickel metal hydride battery.

nickel metal hydride battery *n.* A rechargeable battery that offers longer life and superior performance compared with similar nickel cadmium or other alkaline batteries. *Also called:* NiMH battery. *Compare* lead ion battery, lithium ion battery, nickel cadmium battery.

nickname *n.* A name used in the destination field of an e-mail editor in place of one or more complete network addresses. For example "Fred" might be a nickname for fred@history.washington.edu. If the nickname has been established within the program, a user need only type "Fred" instead of the entire address, or perhaps "history faculty" instead of all the individual faculty addresses. *See also* alias (definition 2).

NIDS *n.* Acronym for **network-based intrusion-detection System**. A type of intrusion detection system (IDS) that analyzes the individual packets moving across a network. NIDS can detect packets that a firewall might not catch. *See also* IDS.

NII *n.* See National Information Infrastructure.

nil pointer *n.* See null pointer.

Nimda worm *n.* A persistent worm that can slow or freeze mail servers, take control of Web pages, and infect systems through several different means. The Nimda worm spreads as an attached file through e-mail, through an Internet scan for vulnerable Web servers, through a JavaScript on an infected Web page, or through network sharing. The Nimda worm first appeared in 2001, with several variants following the original version.

NiMH battery *n.* See nickel metal hydride battery.

nine's complement *n.* A number in the base-10 (decimal) system that is the complement of another number. It is derived by subtracting each digit of the number to be complemented from 1 less than the base. For example, the nine's complement of 64 is 35—the number derived by subtracting 6 from 9 and 4 from 9. *See also* complement.

NIS *n.* Acronym for **Network Information Service**. *See* Yellow Pages (definition 1).

NIST *n.* See National Institute of Standards and Technology.

***NIX** *n.* Slang for any UNIX-related operating system, or all UNIX-related operating systems. *NIX typically refers to UNIX and Linux, and may also include Mac OS X.

nixpub *n.* A list of ISPs (Internet service providers) available in the newsgroups comp.bbs.misc and alt.bbs. *See also* ISP.

NKE *n.* Acronym for **Network Kernel Extension**. A modification or extension of the Mac OS X networking infrastructure. NKEs may be loaded or unloaded dynamically, without recompiling the kernel or without the need to reboot the system. NKEs allow the creation and configuration of protocol stacks and modules that may monitor or modify network traffic or add other networking features to the kernel.

NL *n.* See newline character.

NLQ *n.* See near-letter-quality.

NLS *n.* See natural language support.

NMI *n.* See nonmaskable interrupt.

NMOS or **N-MOS** *n.* Acronym for **N-channel metal-oxide semiconductor**. A semiconductor technology in which the conduction channel in MOSFETs is formed by the movement of electrons rather than holes (electron "vacancies" created as electrons move from atom to atom). Because electrons move faster than holes, NMOS is faster than PMOS, although it is more difficult and more expensive to fabricate. *See also* MOS, MOSFET, N-type semiconductor. *Compare* CMOS, PMOS.

NNTP *n.* Acronym for **Network News Transfer Protocol**. A de facto protocol standard on the Internet used to distribute news articles and query news servers.

NOC *n.* See network operation center.

node *n.* **1.** A junction of some type. **2.** In networking, a device, such as a client computer, a server, or a shared printer, that is connected to the network and is capable of communicating with other network devices. **3.** In tree structures, a location on the tree that can have links to one or more nodes below it. Some authors make a distinction between node and element, with an element being a given data type and a node comprising one or more elements as well as any supporting data structures. *See also* element (definition 1), graph, pointer (definition 1), queue, stack, tree.

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