

whiteboard *n.* Software that allows multiple users across a network to work together on a document that is simultaneously displayed on all the users' screens, as though they are all gathered around a physical whiteboard.

Whiteboard *n.* Microsoft NetMeeting feature that opens a separate window in which multiple users can simultaneously review, create, and update graphic information. The Whiteboard is object-oriented, not pixel-oriented, allowing participants to manipulate the contents by clicking and dragging with the mouse. In addition, they can use a remote pointer or highlighting tool to point out specific contents or sections of shared pages. The NetMeeting Whiteboard is T.126 compliant and is interoperable with other T.126-compatible whiteboards.

white box *n.* A nonbranded PC assembled by a reseller, potentially including components from a number of manufacturers. The name refers to the typical color of the shipping carton, a box unadorned by brand name or logo.

white box testing *n.* A method of testing software that is based on knowledge of how the software is intended to function. Unlike black box testing, which focuses on how the software functions without reference to how it is designed, white box testing relies on detailed knowledge of the program code itself and is intended to find flaws and/or errors in its design and specification. *Also called:* glass box testing. *Compare* black box testing.

white hat *n.* A hacker who operates without malicious intent. A white hat will not break into a system with the intention of doing damage. White hats may be employed to provide security against other hackers. *See also* hacker. *Compare* black hat.

white noise *n.* Noise that contains components at all frequencies, at least within the frequency band of interest. It is called "white" by analogy to white light, which contains light at all the visible frequencies. In the audible spectrum, white noise is a hiss or a roar, such as that produced when a television set is tuned to a channel over which no station is broadcasting.

white pages *n.* *See* DIB (definition 2).

white space *n.* The areas of blank space on a page that can be used in a design for balance, contrast, and visual appeal.

whols *n.* 1. An Internet service, provided by some domains, that enables a user to find e-mail addresses and other information for users listed in a database at that domain. 2. A UNIX command to access the whois service. 3. A command that displays a list of all users logged onto a Novell network.

whols client *n.* A program (such as the UNIX whois command) that enables a user to access databases of usernames, e-mail addresses, and other information. *See also* whois (definition 1).

whols server *n.* Software that provides the usernames and e-mail addresses from a database (often listing people who have accounts at an Internet domain) to users who request the information using whois clients. *See also* whois (definition 1).

Whole Earth 'Lectronic Link *n.* *See* WELL.

whole number *n.* A number without a fractional component—for example, 1 or 173; an integer.

WID *n.* Acronym for **Wireless Information Device**. Smart phone or other handheld wireless device capable of multiple communications functions, including e-mail and Internet access.

Wide Area Information Server *n.* *See* WAIS.

wide area network *n.* *See* WAN.

wideband transmission *n.* *See* broadband network.

Wide SCSI *n.* A form of the SCSI-2 interface that can transfer data 16 bits at a time at up to 20 megabytes per second. The Wide SCSI connector has 68 pins. *Also called:* Wide SCSI-2. *See also* SCSI, SCSI-2. *Compare* Fast SCSI, Fast/Wide SCSI.

Wide SCSI-2 *n.* *See* Wide SCSI.

widow *n.* A last line of a paragraph, shorter than a full line, appearing at the top of a page. A widow is considered visually undesirable on the printed page. *Compare* orphan.

wildcard character *n.* A keyboard character that can be used to represent one or many characters. The asterisk (*), for example, typically represents one or more characters, and the question mark (?) typically represents a single character. Wildcard characters are often used in operating systems as a means of specifying more than one file by name.

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WIMP *n.* Acronym for **Windows, Icons, Mouse, and Pointers**. A graphical user interface (GUI) such as those provided by the Apple Macintosh and Microsoft Windows operating systems. WIMP is usually said to stand for Windows, Icons, Mouse, and Pointers, but the acronym is sometimes spelled out as either Windows, Icons, Menus, and Pointers or Windows, Icons, Mouse, and Pull-down menus. The WIMP interface was invented at the Xerox Palo Alto Research Center (PARC), where it was first used in the Alto computer in the early 1970s. *See also* graphical user interface.

Win32 *n.* The application programming interface in Windows 95 and Windows NT that enables applications to use the 32-bit instructions available on 80386 and higher processors. Although Windows 95 and Windows NT support 16-bit 80x86 instructions as well, Win32 offers greatly improved performance. *See also* 16-bit machine, 32-bit machine, 80386DX, 8086, application programming interface, central processing unit, Win32s.

Win32 Driver Model *n.* *See* Windows Driver Model.

Win32s *n.* A subset of the Win32 application programming interface that works under Windows 3.x. By including the Win32s software, which is distributed as freeware, an application can gain in performance from using the 32-bit instructions available on 80386 and higher processors while running on Windows 3.x. *See also* 32-bit machine, 80386DX, central processing unit, Win32.

Winchester disk *n.* An early IBM name for a hard disk. The term is derived from IBM's internal code name for its first hard disk, which stored 30 megabytes (MB) and had a 30-millisecond access time, reminding its inventors of a Winchester .30-caliber rifle known as a ".30-.30."

window *n.* In applications and graphical interfaces, a portion of the screen that can contain its own document or message. In window-based programs, the screen can be divided into several windows, each of which has its own boundaries and can contain a different document (or another view into the same document).

window definition function *n.* A resource associated with a window in a Macintosh application. The Macintosh Window Manager calls this function to perform

such actions as drawing and resizing the window. *Also called:* WDEF.

windowing *n.* An approach to remediation (correction of problems) or simply user convenience in which two-digit years are interpreted in relation to a window of time. Logical procedures based on windowing thus enable software to correctly produce accurate four-digit years. In windowing, the century is determined by presuming that the year falls within a 100-year span. So if the window ranges from 1995 to 2094, any year that is 95 or greater is presumed to be in the twentieth century (19xx), while any number less than 95 is presumed to be in the twenty-first century (20xx). *Fixed windowing* presupposes that a window always starts with the same date, or pivot year. *Moving windowing* permits a user or another system to specify the pivot year when the program is installed or started. *Sliding windowing* is calculated every time a program runs and can be based on a predetermined span of time, called a slider, that can be added to the current date to produce the pivot year for the window. Potential differences in windows require analysis whenever importing or exporting data between systems. *Also called:* logic fix. *See also* pivot year.

windowing environment *n.* An operating system or shell that presents the user with specially delineated areas of the screen called *windows*. Windowing environments typically allow windows to be resized and moved around on the display. The Macintosh Finder, Windows, and the OS/2 Presentation Manager are all examples of windowing environments. *See also* graphical user interface, window.

window random access memory *n.* *See* WRAM.

Windows *n.* An operating system introduced by Microsoft Corporation in 1983. Windows is a multitasking graphical user interface environment that runs on MS-DOS-based computers (Windows 3.x. and Windows for Workgroups), and as a self-contained operating system for desktop computers (Windows 9x and Windows Me), workstations (Windows NT Workstation, Windows 2000 Professional), and network servers (Windows NT Server, Windows NT Enterprise Edition, Windows 2000 Server, and Windows 2000 Advanced Server). The most recent



versions of Windows are Windows XP Home (home and entertainment use) and Professional (advanced computing, businesses, and large organizations). The next generation of Windows server products will be the Windows Server 2003 family. Windows provides a standard graphical interface based on drop-down menus, windowed regions on the screen, and a pointing device such as a mouse.

Windows 95 *n.* An operating system with a graphical user interface for 80386 and higher processors, released by Microsoft Corporation in 1995. Intended to replace Windows 3.11, Windows for Workgroups 3.11, and MS-DOS, Windows 95 is a complete operating system, rather than a shell that requires MS-DOS, as does Windows 3.x. For backward compatibility, Windows 95 can run MS-DOS software. Under Windows 95, filenames can be up to 255 characters long and may include dots and spaces. Windows 95 supports the Plug and Play method for installing and configuring hardware and can access Windows, NetWare, and UNIX networks. The minimum configuration for Windows 95 is an 80386 processor with 4 MB of RAM, but an i486 or higher processor with at least 8 MB of RAM is recommended. Internet functionality is provided in large part in Windows 95 by Microsoft Internet Explorer. *See also* MS-DOS, NetWare, Plug and Play, Windows.

Windows 98 *n.* An operating system with a graphical user interface for i486 and higher processors, released by Microsoft Corporation in 1998. Building upon Windows 95, Windows 98 features an improved interface and more robust functionality. With the Active Desktop, Windows 98 integrates Internet connectivity even more closely, allowing users to access remote files in the same way they would access files on their hard drives. Hardware support includes USB, IEEE 1394, AGP ports, television tuner cards, DVD drives, multiple modems, and multiple monitors. Windows 98, Second Edition, released in 1999, builds on the features in the initial release and offers home networking and improved maintenance features. *See also* Windows, Windows 95.

Windows 9x *n.* The architecture upon which Windows 95 and Windows 98 were built. *See also* Windows 95, Windows 98.

Windows 2000 *n.* A Microsoft operating system, the successor to Windows NT, designed for business rather than consumer use. Like its predecessor, Windows 2000 is a multithreaded, multitasking 32-bit operating system.

Implemented in desktop and several server versions, Windows 2000 focuses overall on improved ease of use, networking, management, reliability, scalability, and security. See the table.

Table W.1 ATA Specifications.

<i>Version</i>	<i>Designed For</i>	<i>Features</i>
Windows 2000 Professional	Business desktop	Improvements in: Ease of use; security, performance, and reliability; support for mobile computing
Windows 2000 Server	Small to medium-sized deployments—workgroups, branch offices, departmental application, file, print servers	Two-way symmetric multiprocessing (SMP); Active Directory; management tools; Kerberos and PKI security; COM+; Windows Terminal Support; improved Internet services
Windows 2000 Advanced Server	Mid-range departmental and application deployments	Windows 2000 Server features, plus four-way SMP; load balancing; clustering; high-performance sorting; 64-GB physical memory
Windows 2000 Datacenter Server	Large operations—data warehouses, online transaction-processing (OLTP), science and engineering simulations, enterprise solutions	Windows 2000 Advanced Server features, plus 16-way SMP

Windows 2000 Advanced Server *n.* Microsoft's network server for larger organizations. Designed to replace Windows NT 4 Enterprise Edition, it supports up to four-way SMP, large physical memories, and database-intensive work. It integrates clustering and load balancing support. *See also* SMP, Windows.

Windows 2000 Datacenter Server *n.* Microsoft's network server for larger organizations. Considered the most

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powerful and functional server operating system ever offered by Microsoft, it supports up to 16-way SMP and up to 64 GB of physical memory (depending on system architecture). Like Windows 2000 Advanced Server, it provides both clustering and load balancing services as standard features. It is optimized for large data warehouses, econometric analysis, large-scale simulations in science and engineering, OLTP, and server consolidation projects. *See also* OLTP, SMP, Windows.

Windows 2000 Professional *n.* Microsoft's mainstream desktop operating system for businesses of all sizes. Designed to replace Windows NT Workstation 4, which many people are using today as the standard business desktop, Windows 2000 Professional builds upon the interface and kernel in NT 4. It also includes improved security, state-of-the-art features for mobile users, industrial-strength reliability, and better performance.

Windows 2000 Server *n.* Microsoft's network server for small to medium businesses. Designed to replace Windows NT 4 Server, Windows 2000 Server offers improved functionality and supports new systems with up to two-way symmetric multiprocessing (SMP).

Windows application *n.* A software application designed for use with the Microsoft Windows environment.

Windows-based accelerator *n.* A type of super VGA (SVGA) video adapter designed specifically to run Windows and Windows-based applications more quickly. A Windows-based accelerator achieves performance improvements over a standard SVGA video adapter with the help of special routines built into the adapter's read-only memory. These routines relieve the Windows operating system of some of the video-related duties it must perform on a nonaccelerated system. *Also called:* Windows-based accelerator card. *See also* SVGA.

Windows CE *n.* A small operating system from Microsoft designed for use with handheld and palm-size PCs and in embedded systems, such as the AutoPC. Windows CE, which has a user interface that is similar to Windows 9x and Windows NT, includes scaled-down versions of several Microsoft applications, including Excel, Word, Internet Explorer, Schedule+, and an e-mail client. *See also* handheld PC.

Windows CE Services *n.* A set of technologies that makes Windows CE-based devices Web enabled. It provides the functionality to deliver Web content information

to Windows CE-based devices from a wireless network or by desktop synchronization.

Windows Distributed InterNet Applications Architecture *n.* *See* Windows DNA.

Windows DNA *n.* Short for Microsoft **Windows Distributed InterNet Applications Architecture**. A framework introduced in 1997 as a means of integrating client/server and Web technologies in the creation of scalable, multitier applications delivered over an enterprise network. Windows DNA is based on a number of technologies, among them COM (Component Object Model), ActiveX, and dynamic HTML.

Windows Driver Library *n.* A collection of hardware device drivers for a Microsoft Windows operating system that were not included in the original Windows package. *Acronym:* WDL. *See also* driver.

Windows Driver Model *n.* A 32-bit layered architecture for device and bus drivers that allows for drivers that can be used by both Windows NT and Windows 98. It provides common input/output services understood by both operating systems and supports Plug and Play, USB (Universal Serial Bus), IEEE 1394 bus, and various devices, including input, communication, imaging, and DVD. *Acronym:* WDM. *Also called:* Win32 Driver Model.

Windows Explorer *n.* A utility in Windows that enables the user to locate and open files and folders. Windows Explorer resembles the File Manager of Windows 3.1. The user can select folders from a list displayed on the left side of the screen and access files in a selected folder from a list displayed on the right side of the screen.

Windows Forms *n.* A rich Windows client library for building Windows client applications.

Windows Foundation Classes *n.* A Java class library for developing Java applications to run in the Windows environment. Designed by Microsoft to make it easy to write code for the Windows platform using the powerful Java programming language, the Windows Foundation Classes represent an object-oriented framework that encapsulates and unifies the Microsoft Win32 API and Dynamic HTML programming models. This framework enables developers to link Java code directly to Windows APIs. *Acronym:* WFC. *See also* Java, Java Foundation Classes.

Windows Image Acquisition *n.* A device-driver interface that supports still digital cameras and low-end and

high-end scanners and allows retrieving of still images from IEEE 1394-based DV camcorders and USB-based Web cams. *Acronym:* WIA.

Windows IP Configuration *n.* See Winipcfg.

Windows Management Instrumentation *n.* A management infrastructure in Windows that supports monitoring and controlling system resources through a common set of interfaces and provides a logically organized, consistent model of Windows operation, configuration, and status. *Acronym:* WMI. See also resource.

Windows Me *n.* Released in 2000, the Windows Millennium Edition (Windows Me) operating system designed for home users as an upgrade from Windows 95 or Windows 98. Windows Me offers an improved home user experience including making it easier for users to share and manipulate digital photos, music, and videos, enhanced home networking capabilities, a rich Internet experience with support for broadband connections, different Internet communication tools, and online gaming.

Windows Media Audio *n.* A digital audio coding scheme developed by Microsoft that is used in distributing recorded music, usually over the Internet. Windows Media Audio shrinks the size of the audio file by a factor of 20 to 24 without seriously degrading the quality (CD-recording level) of the sound. Windows Media Audio files are given the file extension .wma and can be created with Windows Media Tools and played with the Windows Media Player. *Acronym:* WMA. See also Windows Media Technologies. Compare MP3, RealAudio, Secure Digital Music Initiative.

Windows Media Encoder *n.* A Windows Media technology that compresses live or prerecorded audio and video into a Windows Media stream, which can either be distributed immediately or saved as a Windows Media file for later distribution. The technology allows content developers to convert both live and prerecorded audio, video, and computer screen images to Windows Media Format for live and on-demand delivery. Windows Media Encoder also can save a stream as a Windows Media file and convert a file into Windows Media Format. Windows Media Encoder can distribute a stream via HTTP protocol. *Also called:* (if context is clear) Encoder, the encoder, the encoder engine.

Windows Media Player *n.* A client/control that receives a stream from a Windows Media server or local content for playback. It can run as a stand-alone client executable program. Windows Media Player can also be embedded in

a Web page, a C++ program, or a Microsoft Visual Basic program that uses the client ActiveX control.

Windows Media server *n.* A server on which Windows Media Services has been installed.

Windows Media Services *n.* A digital media platform that runs on a server, such as Windows 2000, to support streaming media, such as video and audio.

Windows Media Technologies *n.* Microsoft technologies for the creation, delivery, and playing of streaming audio and video over a network, including both intranets and the Internet. Windows Media Technologies, downloadable from the Microsoft Web site, support both live and on-demand (delivered from storage) content and are based on files delivered in Advanced Streaming Format (ASF). Three major components—Windows Media Tools, Windows Media Services, and Windows Media Player—comprise Windows Media Technologies. See the table. See also Advanced Streaming Format. Compare Real-System G2.

Table W.2 ATA Specifications.

Component	Purpose	Features
Windows Media Tools	Content creation	ASF authoring and editing tools, including tools for converting files from other formats (WAV, AVI, MPEG, and MP3) to ASF.
Windows Media Services	Content delivery	Tools for real-time and on-demand content delivery, administration tools, and Windows Media Rights Manager for piracy control.
Windows Media Player for PC platforms, Windows Media Player for Macintosh, Windows Media Player for UNIX	Content playback	ASF player for audio, audio plus still images, and full-motion video. Also supports other multimedia data, including RealAudio.

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